

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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SEBRLE PREVAILS in OSAKA Smith, Karpov Medal, Clay, Pappas Hurt

Hello Again...day one in Osaka ended in disappointment for defending champ Bryan Clay.. The 27 year old had the meet well in hand halfway thru the 4th event, when he pulled a quad muscle in an



Bryan Clay pulled a quadriceps muscle in the 4th first day event and was forced to the sidelines. At the time his chances of successfully defending his world decathlon title looked excellent.

know that we share the same blood," he said.



Czech Roman Sebrle, 32, put up ten consistent marks and walked away with the IAAF world title, his 39th 8000+ career score.

attempt at 2.00m/6-6 $\frac{3}{4}$. At this point in the meet so dominant was Clay (having won the first two events) that statisticians were predicting a 8750+ score or higher. Then it all crumbled.

The pulled quadriceps in his right leg left him a spectator. "I still don't know what happened," Clay told The Associated Press. "It was going so well, too. It just got tighter and tighter. It was just too painful to go on." Having painted the distinctive red circle of the rising sun on a white field on both his shoulders, Clay wanted to show his kinship with the crowd." I am half Japanese and I wanted to let them

11th IAAF World Championships Osaka, Japan August 31-Sept 1, 2007

Day two:

110m Hurdles: [9:00 am- 9:02 – 9:21 am]

Warm, sunny skies greeted the 26 athletes who remained. Seeding was well done except for section #1 where Dhoubi again won easily in 14.49. Russian Aleksey Drozdov put himself into the medal picture with a seasonal best 14.76 in second place. Paul Terek was 6th in 15.10.

Roman Sebrle had things all to himself in the second race, winning unopposed in 14.33. Ex Missouri athlete

Hans Olaf Uldal of Norway fell over the first barrier, recovered and finished in 27.24 for 8 points.

The 3rd race had many of the contenders with Maurice Smith drawing lane 8 and Dmitri Karpov lane 9. Smith broke first and seemed in total control, running smoothly over each barrier. Meanwhile, in lane 4, the much shorter German, Arthur Abele, was running the race of his life. Smith won the affair on a lean, 13.91 to Abele's PR 13.92. Karpov was a solid 3rd, caught in 14.03.

Jake Arnold (14.72) and Tom Pappas (14.84) never did get untracked.

Despite Smith's 100+ point lead it appeared that the battle for the medals would be closer..

After Six: Smit 5511, Karp 5410, Sebr 5366, Drov 5232, Papp 5211....11th Tere 5011...14th Arno 4987.

Discus: [10:00 am - 10:00 11:53]

Tom Pappas withdrew, feeling the effects of an early season foot injury. The US was down to a pair of competitors.

Attila Zsivoczky won the Group A competition with a 46.80m/153-6 3rd round toss.

In Group B (top throwers) Smith led after round #1 with a 49.02m/160-10 effort. Karpov's 2nd round 48.95m/160-7 was a significant improvement for him.

Then Smith responded with an effort than came from way down under, and it covered 52.36m/171-9 of Osaka landscape and moved his lead over Karpov to 172 and 237 over Sebrle. Could he be caught?

In round #3 Karpov slipped out of the left side of the circle, foul, and now he had his work cut out to catch Smith. Maurice did not improve in round #3 (although his last effort exceeded 52 meters) but Sebrle did, smelling blood and getting a near PR 48.75m/160-0. Given his

vault, jav and 1500 skills he was looking more and more like a winner.

Terek managed a nice 44.81m/147-0 in round #1 then dumped a pair into the cage. Arnold also had a nice 43.70m/143-0 opener, then failed to improve.

After Seven: Smit 6431, Karp6259, Sebr 6210, Drov 6074...10th Tere 5774...13th Arno 5727.

Pole Vault: [1:00 pm]

Maurice Smith was the major surprise in Group B, managing to scrape over 4.80m/15-9, a PR by 10cm! And it kept him in the overall lead.. Russian Aleksey Sysoyev won the group at 4.90m/16-¾



Former NCAA indoor champion while at Auburn, Maurice Smith/JAM, added nearly 300 points to his PR and claimed the silver medal. On the way he managed a PR 4.80m/15-9 in the vault.

In Group A Sebrle topped out at the same height as Smith so the world record holder made up no ground here. Karpov PR'd at 5.00m/16-4¾ to make up 61 points on Smith. Americans Paul Terek and Jake Arnold both vaulted well, getting 5.20m/17-¾ and 5.10m/16-8¾ and respectively. And both moved into the top 10. Smith was hanging onto his big lead. *After Eight: Smit 7280, Karp 7169, Sebr 7059, Droz 6984...8th Tere 6746, 9th Arno 6668*

Javelin: [6:00 pm, 6:00-8:49 pm]

In Group A the throwing was uniformly excellent with 5 over 65 meters as Aleksandr Parkomenka/BLR's 69.14m/226-10 the winner. Karpov's 59.84m/196-4 spear was a seasonal best and solidified a medal for him.

The pivotal moment for the gold medal came in round #1 of Group B. After Maurice Smith, throwing first in the order, reached 53.61m/175-10, Sebrle struck. Always a top javelin thrower his spear landed at a PR 71.18m/233-6, and just like that Smith's 221 point lead over Sebrle had turned into a 44 point deficit.

Arnold (56.01m/183-9) and Terek (55.96m/183-7) had bookend throws. *After Nine: Sebr 7966, Smit 7922, Karp 7904, Droz 7775... 10th Tere 7423, 11th Arno 7346.*

1500 Meters: [9:30, 9:34 – 9:50]

With the medals decided the final event was anticlimactic. The first race was dominated by Korea's Kun-Woo Kim, who was a hero here and the crowd was delighted as he led from wire to wire. With a lap to go he had an 80 meter lead and held it to the end, clocking a terrific 4:16.16, coming within 4½ seconds of the meet record. Ironically, no individual meet record fell in Osaka, but this was close.

In the second race Sebrle held a 44 point or about a 7 second margin, so he appeared safe for the gold medal.

At the gun Zsivoczky and Barras charged to the front, while Smith, Sebrle and Karpov all sprinted to the rear of the pack, and Cuba's Garcia kept them company.

Jake Arnold took over the lead at 800 meters (2:29) and held it for half a lap before fading. The winner turned out to be young Abele who sprinted most of the final lap and clocked 4:21.69.

Yet Smith made it an honest race. With 500 meters remaining, and the trio of Smith-Sebrle-Karpov running comfortably, Smith bolted, hoping for last lap heroics. Sebrle covered the move but within 300 meters of the finish they had caught most of the lead group. Smith pressed it and finished in 4:33.52 but Sebrle never let him get too far away and a bright smile crossed his face when he hit the finish line (4:35.32). Karpov too, running flat-footed, worked hard down the stretch, and managed 4:39.68.

Terek ran a tough 4:37.38 to post his 2nd 8100+ score for the season and place a fine 10th. The rookie, Arnold, faded to 4:43.58, just enough to keep his 2nd 8000 score of the season

Sebrle's victory lap had to be shared with American pole vault winner Brad Walker, who finished at the same time. Perhaps the meet's highlight was the team victory lap by all decathletes, trying not to be outdone by the heptathlon field earlier in the week. Collectively they thanked the large and appreciative crowd. *After Ten: Sebr 8676, Smit 8644, Karp 8586, Droz 8475..... 10th Tere 8120,, Arno 13th 8004..*

Summary:

Roman Sebrle, just bided his time waiting for a swing event. It came in the javelin when he PR'd with a 71.18m/233-6 effort. He had wiped out Smith's huge lead in a matter of seconds. His consistency over 17 year decathlon career is remarkable. This was his 69th ten eventer and 28th career win. The world title is the only crown he had, heretofore, not worn. As current world record holder and Olympic champion, (as well as having an Olympic silver medal) this title was the only missing jewel for the 32 year old champion.

He earned this one. Maurice Smith, a rising star, and Dmitri Karpov, always dangerous, gave him all he could handle. Smith will work on his javelin and Karpov can only scratch his head over his long jump. And Smith's last lap charge in the 1500 meters is a warning for all decathletes... "it's not over until it's over." For Smith this meet represented a nearly 300 point lifetime best. He was one tough amigo in Osaka!

It was unfortunate that 3 of the major contenders, Götzis winner Andrei Krauchanka, and a pair of former champions, Bryan Clay (2005) and Tom Pappas (2003) were injured in Osaka, and were unable to finish.

Almost unnoticed was Yordani Garcia, the 18 year old Cuban, whose 8257 (2nd highest Junior score ever) came in only his 5th career decathlon with senior implements.

8/31-9/1 11th IAAF World Championships, Osaka, JPN

8676	Roman Sebrle/CZE	11.04-0.2	756-0.1	1592	212	48.80	14.33-0.3	4875	480	7118	4:35.32
8644	Maurice Smith/JAM	10.62+0.7	750 0.0	1732	197	47.48	13.91-0.2	5236	480	5361	4:33.52
8586	Dmitri Karpov/KAZ	10.70-0.2	719 0.0	1608	206	47.44	14.03-0.2	4895	500	5984	4:39.68
8475	Aleksey Drozdov/RUS	10.97+0.2	725-0.3	1649	212	50.00	14.76+1.4	4862	500	6351	4:36.93
8371	Andre Nicklaus/GER	11.12+0.2	742+0.4	1412	206	49.40	14.51-0.2	4448	530	6328	4:32.50
8357	Aleksey Syoyev/RUS	10.80-0.2	701-0.3	1616	203	48.42	14.59-0.3	4976	490	5775	4:36.16
8262											
14.36-											
8257											
14.08-											
8243											
13.92-0.2											
8120	Paul Terek/USA	10.95-0.2	726-0.8	1481	200	49.34	15.10+1.4	4481	520	5596	4:37.38
8034	Han van Alpen/BEL	11.11+0.2	735+0.3	1467	188	48.52	14.77-0.3	4430	430	6571	4:22.50
8017	Attila Zsivoczky/HUN	11.44-0.5	700-0.1	1513	209	50.58	14.82+1.4	4680	480	5963	4:35.55
8004	Jake Arnold/USA	11.14+0.2	686+0.4	1473	203	49.02	14.72-0.2	4370	510	5601	4:43.68
7984	Alex Parkomenka/BLR	11.29-0.5	692-0.2	1598	194	51.16	14.93-0.3	4486	470	6914	4:34.63
7974	Francois Gourmet/BEL	10.67+0.7	715+0.3	1374	185	47.98	15.02-0.3	3987	500	5773	4:25.51
7794	Andres Raja/EST	10.92+0.2	742-0.3	1426	185	48.89	14.51-0.2	3707	470	6034	4:45.83
7749	Augustin Felix/ESP	11.17+0.2	712-0.1	1329	203	52.08	14.75-0.3	4367	500	5669	4:48.27
7657	Alberto Juantorena/CUB	11.13+0.2	743-0.3	1354	209	50.37	14.97+1.4	4169	420	5628	4:50.69
7629	Hiromasa Tanaka/JPN	11.05-0.5	678-0.3	1192	188	48.59	15.53+1.4	4165	510	5959	4:40.04
7625	Josef Karras/CZE	11.12-0.2	744-0.8	1323	194	50.60	15.17+1.4	4558	440	4928	4:31.21
7531	Kun-Woo Kim/KOR	11.29-0.5	712-0.4	1283	191	48.99	14.89+1.4	3623	480	4479	4:16.16
7344	Norman Muller/GER	10.90+0.7	744+0.1	1518	197	47.58	14.71-0.3	4099	nh	5893	4:30.38
6698	Hans Olaf Uldal/NOR	11.21-0.2	693+0.5	1365	182	50.70	27.24-0.3	4531	450	6163	4:44.91
dnf	Hamdi Dhoubi/TUN	10.93-0.2	705-1.0	1340	182	47.59	14.49+1.4	4437	470		withdrew
dnf	Carlos Chinin/BRA	10.83+0.7	726-0.1	1272	203	48.18	14.50-0.3	3806	nh		withdrew
dnf	Tom Pappas/USA	10.96-0.2	744+0.4	1631	203	49.22	14.84-0.2				withdrew
dnf	Eugene Martineau/Ned	11.25-0.5	713-0.3	1369	200	50.38					withdrew
dnf	Bryan Clay/USA	10.44+0.7	765-0.1	1551	197	dns					
dnf	Andrei Krauchanka/BLR	dsq	758-0.9								withdrew
dnf	Vitaliy Smirnov/UZB	dnf									withdrew
											30s,23f.



