

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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TEAM USA LEADS 1st Day THORPE CUP Pappas Back to Old Form with 4472 Score

Hello Again....[I had a major computer breakdown just before the USA vs Germany dual meet and I am just getting facilities back to normal. It is frustrating to have to sit by and watch w/o being able to report on this major international. My apologies for the delay in coverage.]

Tom Pappas returned to the form which won him the 2003 IAAF World Championships by smashing the first day meet record at the 16th edition of the annual USA vs. Germany Thorpe Cup team match. Marburg, Germany served as the perfect host and a crowd of 800 on day one watched Pappas, 32, Manhattan, KS, win the 3 field events and post a pair of solid races while running up a whopping 4472 score and a 433 point first day lead. Americans Lysias Edmonds (4039) and Joe Detmer (4036) stood 2nd and 3rd. Pappas and Detmer were added to the USA team after the national championships in Eugene.

On the team side, Team USA, sporting a 6 meet win streak, jumped out to a 212 point lead after the initial event in the 5 man competition and extended the margin to an overwhelming 1,505 points by the end of the day. Team USA, coached by Mario Sategna and Travis Geopfert club stood 1-2-3-5-6 at the break. The host team was handicapped by some early season injuries limiting their line-up. They went to the starting line with only 6 athletes and lost their team captain, Nils Buker, to a long jump injury. They continued with the minimum five man club. Here's what happened.



American team captain Tom Pappas, 4 weeks shy of his 33rd birthday, broke his own meet record with a 4472 1st day Thorpe Cup score in Marburg, Germany.



**16th Thorpe Cup
USA vs Germany
Marburg, GER
Aug. 7-8, 2009**

100 Meters: [12:30 pm]

Tom Pappas was ready! Placed in section #1 since he had not finished a decathlon since the '08 US Olympic Trials, Pappas won easily in 10.84 seconds, his fastest clocking since the '04 Olympic Games

in Athens. Guest Jake Arnold was the runner-up a solid 11.05, 4/100ths ahead of Paul Terek. Last year's IAAF world junior king Jan-Felix Knoebel PR'd in 11.35. Wind +1.6 mps.



In the seeded section of the 100m, Nils Büker/Germany, left, won in 10.81 seconds. American Mike Marsh, center, was 4th in 10.99. On right is Simon Hechler/Germany, who was 3rd in 10.95.

The seeded race was captured by Team Zehnkampf's Nils Büker in the day's best clocking, 10.81 (wind +0.8 mps). Team USA posted solid marks and took a 212 point lead to the 2nd event.

After One: Büke 903, Papp897, Edmo 890, Heck 872...team: USA +212

Long Jump: [1:00 pm]

Pappas put the meet away early with a 7.48m/24-6½ first round leap. 21 year old Simon Hechler took the lead with a PR 7.59m/24-11 amid the rhythmic clapping of the crowd. Pappas responded with a 7.63m/25-½, the 3rd best mark of his career and his 2nd best effort since 2003. Wind +1.7 mps. Joe Detmer then PR'd with a 7.25m/23-9½ mark. 11 fouls.

Moritz Cleve, the current Big 12 champ from Kansas State, who had recently been nominated for a German team Berlin spot when Michael Schrader came down with a stress fracture, recorded 6.98m/22-10¾ as a guest.

After Two: Papp1864, Heck 1829, Detm 1732, Edmo 1701...team: USA +331.

Shot Put: [2:45 pm]

Joe Detmer struggled with a pair of fouls before recovering with a 12.00m/39-4½ toss but the whole story was Pappas who opened with 15.83m/51-11¼, improved to 16.15m/53-0 and finally to 16.82m/55-2¼, his 2nd best career toss. The Yank team lead grew to 474 points.

Cleve marked 13.89m/45-7.

After Three: Papp 2766, Heck 2446, Knoe 2363, Detm 2338...team: USA +474.

High Jump: [4:15 pm]

Limping, Büker no heighted and any semblance of a team competition evaporated. He withdrew leaving an already undermanned German club with just 5 athletes.

At 2.01m/6-7 only Detmer, Lysias Edmonds and Pappas remained. Detmer was unable to negotiate the bar and Edmonds did (equaling a PR) but could go no higher leaving Pappas at center stage. He cleared 5 consecutive heights w/o a miss ultimately clearing 2.07m/6-9½ before retiring. His individual lead grew to 457 digits and the team lead now exceeded a grand.

After Four: Papp3634, Heck 3177, Edmo 3148, Detm 3123...team: USA +1,059.

400 Meters: [6:30 pm]

Chris Randolph, 4th at the USA nationals, won the first section in a fine 48.94 time. A quartet of Americans swept section#2 with Detmer blasting 47.91 and Pappas, in 4th, getting 49.49, (Edmonds 48.37 and Nick Adcock 49.03 the others), The team contest was now history and the only question remaining was how high a score Pappas could fashion.

After Five: Papp 4472, Edmo 4039, Detm 4036, Heck 3982...team: USA +1,505.



8/7-8 16th Annual Thorpe Cup, USA vs Germany Team

Match, Marburg, GER

4472	Pappas, Tom/USA	10.84+1.6	763+1.7	1682	207	49.49
4039	Edmonds, Lysias/USA	10.87+0.8	699+1.9	1245	201	48.37
4036	Detmer, Joe/USA	11.01+0.8	725+1.0	1200	198	47.91
3982	Hechler, Simon/GER	10.95+0.8	759+1.3	1217	192	50.21
3899	Adcock, Nick/USA	11.21+0.8	707+1.9	1294	192	49.03
3890	Terek, Paul/USA	11.09+1.6	680+2.8	1362	195	49.90
3875	Knoebel, Jan-Felix/GER	11.35+1.6	708+1.5	1429	189	50.16
3837	Marsh, Mike/USA	10.99+0.8	686+1.6	1293	195	50.94
3811	Margis, Thorsten/GER	11.27+1.6	707+1.9	1307	189	50.25
3772	Randolph, Chris/USA	11.35+1.6	665+1.9	1290	192	48.94
3616	Tächl, Lukas/GER	11/56+1.6	680+2.4	1308	192	52.42
3599	Bender, Ralf/GER	11.43+1.6	674+1.4	1184	189	50.82
dnf	Büker, Nils/GER	10.81+0.8	676+1.0	1246	nh	withdrew

Team Score:

USA:	20,336
Germany:	18,883