

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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HARDEE'S 8790 IS ALL THE WORLD

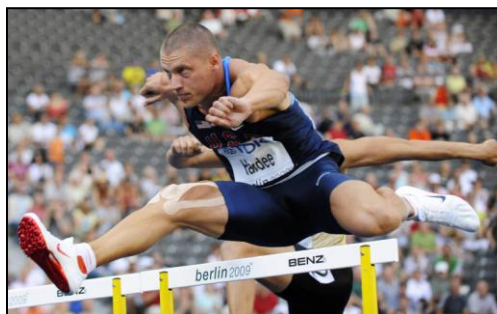
Sixth American Title since 1991



Hello Again.....Trey Hardee cut a little bit of history for himself in Berlin on August 19-20 by putting up numbers rarely seen in deca annals. His winning score at the 12th IAAF world champs of 8790 makes him the 8th performer all-time and the 3rd highest scoring American behind Dan O'Brien and Bryan Clay. And his win here in Berlin was the 6th by an American in the last 10 world championships. Three event PRs (long jump, shot put and javelin) paved the way to a 150 point victory over last year's young (21) Olympic bronze medalist Leonel Suarez of Cuba, who nearly duplicated his seasonal best score but never sufficiently challenged Hardee. Russian Alex Pogorelov won the hotly contested bronze medal as 20 surpassed 8000 points. Americans Ashton Eaton and Jake Arnold were 18th and 24 respectively in the meets biggest field ever where 4 dropped on day one and the remaining 34 finished all ten events.

Most impressive was the organization of the meet by Berlin organizers who guaranteed a large crowd and ran the meet smoothly, although the time schedule was somewhat naïve.

To put Hardee's victory in perspective: He raised his game by a whopping 256 points and became the first American since Glenn Morris to win a major decathlon in Berlin. Morris won the 1936 Olympic title here! We should return here more than once every 73 years!



Trey Hardee, 25, Austin, Texas scored an eye-opening 8790 points to win the IAAF World decathlon title in Berlin, Germany.

12th IAAF T&F Championships
Berlin, Germany
Wednesday-Thursday
August 19-20, 2009



DAY TWO

110m Hurdles: [10:05 am]

Ideal conditions, Clear skies, 80 degrees F and about 8,000 fans greeted the hurdlers on Thursday morning. Alex Pogorelov ran away in the initial race clocking a fine 14.19 as Yunior Diaz raced to a 14.56 clocking. A pair of false starts (Norman Muller/GER, Yevhen Nikitin/UKR) slowed the event.

The second race featured all the top hurdlers and Trey Hardee came out smokin'. He dominated, running in lane 1 with his major antagonist, Leonel Suarez/CUB on the opposite side. Hardee blasted from the blocks and, at two hurdles was a clear leader and simply ran away from this good field clocking

13.86, a seasonal best. His sprint speed was evident between hurdles. Ashton Eaton appeared a bit ragged clocking 14.28 and Jake Arnold was caught in 14.40. As happened in the 100m, Suarez simply ran out of gas near the end of the event and placed dead last (14.45 seconds).



Yordani Garcia (r), 20, leads Oregon's Ashton Eaton, 21, in the 110m hurdles.

With flailing arms Andrei Krauchanka /BLR captured the 3rd race even though he was left in the blocks. His 14.13 made him a wide winner over South African Will Coertzen's 14.26. Roman Sebrle was back in 4th and first day leader Oleksiy Kasyanov gave up the "Leading" bib to Hardee managing just 14.44 seconds.

The 4th race was dominated by Dmitri Karpov and it looked like old times, yet he was placed in the slowest race and his winning margin was deceiving, only 14.46 seconds.

The final race was captured by Igmarr Vos/NED, with lots of orange fan support in the stands. Enough of the orange foam fingers, please! His 14.51 edged Labri Bouraadi/ ALG, the African champ, who clocked 14.57. Both PR'd. The wind never exceeded +0.3 mps.

Overheard from a commentator: "it's just remarkable that all the athletes in this race have lifetime bests that are nearly identical, just remarkable." Hello! This only means that the organizers did a great job of seeding which is now the standard for CEs.

After Six: Hard 5504, Kasy 5473, Diaz 5415, Pogo 5325, Garc 5312, Eato 5294, Krau 5248, Sebr 5242, Suar 5237....Arno 4884.

Discus: [11:10 am & 12:30 pm]

A very clever innovation was put into effect....painting the distance readings on the infield (35m, 45m) then washing them off after the event. Great idea and the crowd was able to follow the long throws with little guesswork.

Group B went first, seeded by their previous throwing history. Yunior Diaz, 22, the oldest of the Cuban trio, won with a 43.42m/ 142-6 mark and began to look like a potential medalist. Krauchanka tossed a disappointing 42.24m/138-7 and Eaton's only fair effort measured 37.15m/121-10.

Group A was dramatic and the only show being conducted in the stadium. The event was predictably won by bulky Aleksey Sysoev/RUS in 53.03m/173-11. It's his specialty. Suarez and Hardee threw back to back. In round #1 the Cuban got only 42.70m/140-1 while Hardee plated a nice 46.04m/151-0. My form charts indicated that he needed a 2 meter margin to maintain his gold medal chances since the tables awarded



Hardee's discus has become very consistent and he pumped 48.08m/157-9 to improve his lead.

@ 20 points per additional meter. In round #2 The Cuban did not improve but Hardee pumped a 48.08m/157-9 platter. Suarez improved in round #3 to 44.71m/146-8 but Trey did no better. But he had gained 69 points and his lead over Suarez was now 336 points. Would it be enough, given Suarez javelin and 1500m skills?

After Seven: Hard 6334, Kasy 6275, Pogo 6163, Diaz 6151, Garc 6066, Sebr 6036, Behr 6021, Suar 5998, Syso 5994, Krau 5958, Eato 5901.....Arno5614(22nd)

Pole Vault: [2:30 pm]

After two hours in Group B (better vaulters) only 60 jumps had been attempted, or one every two minutes....rather slow by international standards even though the one minute clock was in force. The bar was at 4.80m/15-9 and 17 of the original 18 athletes remained! And all 17 remained in Group B with the crossbar set at 4.40m/14-5 ¼.

Hardee opened with a huge clearance at 4.70m/15-5 as did Suarez. At 4.80m/15-9 it took Suarez 3 tries before he was successful. Teammate Garcia and Roman Sebrle never were. Roman had difficulty selecting poles and on his last try switched poles with only 10 seconds remaining on the clock and simply ran thru the pit. This took him out of any



Ashton Eaton/USA (l) and South African Will Coertzen, (r), went in opposite directions in the decathlon vault. Eaton went on to clear 5.00m/16-4¾. Coertzen was given another try after he broke his pole.

medal consideration.

At 4.90m/16-¾ things got interesting. Eaton was over easily and Suarez got a PR on first attempts. Arnold missed but Hardee skied over.

Internet commentators continued to badmouth Suarez's chances but we all knew that the any challenge to Hardee would come from the Cuban. All the claims that Suarez

should be "discounted as a medal contender" because of a weak first day could not have realized that he was only 8 points down on his SL best 8654 score. Meanwhile Yunior Diaz got two PRs in Group A finishing with a 4.50m/14-9 mark.

The temps were in the low 90's and it was much hotter on the infield. A frustrated Arnold missed 3 times here.

At 5.00m/16-4¾ (there were still ten vaulters remaining) Hardee, who clearly brought his A game to Berlin, was over the bar by a ton on his initial try while Suarez missed. When Pogorelov cleared the same height he moved ahead of Kasyanov into second place and the event moved into its 4th hour. I hope the athletes were hydrating.

Suarez scraped over 5.00m/16-4¾ on his final try for yet another PR, rattling the bar but it remained on the standards. Seconds later Diaz, in Group A, was over at another PR, 4.60m/15-1, and he stood in 4th place, one spot ahead of Suarez.

In Group B eight went to 5.10m/16-8¾. In Group A the Berlin mascot was hanging around the pit clearly disturbing the vaulters. Behrenbruch lost an attempt here and the life of one mascot was in jeopardy.

Kasyanov got over 4.70m/15-5 in "A", a PR and Hardee followed immediately with a 5.10m/16-8¾. At this time the evening session opened with a medal ceremony and a nearly full stadium. Suarez asked for the crowd clapping on his final effort. He was unable to handle this bar but finished with an eye-opening PR at the previous height. Pogorelov's clearance at 5.10m/16-8¾ moved him into 2nd place. But only three: Hardee and the pair of Russians, Sysoev and Pogo, went to 5.20m/17-¾. Although the internet feed did not show Hardee's first attempt at 5.20m/17-¾, as they set the field for the evening's first hurdle race. But the clear crowd roar on the internet feed was all that was necessary.



Olympic bronze medalist from Beijing, 21 year old Leonel Suarez/CUB, managed a pair of vault PRs ultimately settling for 5.00m/16-4¾.

At 6:30 pm, as the decathlon vault went into its 5th hour, there were 9 vaulters remaining (3 in "B", 6 in "A").

When the pair of Russians failed thrice in "B" Hardee was alone at 5.30m/17-4½, which would equal his career and be a new deca best. His first event miss came here and he could not negotiate this bar. He left the event 202 points up on Pogorelov in 2nd and, more importantly because of the Cuban's prodigious skills in the final two events, 398 points on Suarez. Group B ended 4 hours and 12 minutes after its start, 67 clearances, 79 misses and 146 attempts, averaging a jump each 1 minute and 47 seconds. By any standard that's pretty slow.

Meanwhile the vault continued in Group A where Behrenbruch and Kasyanov soon PR'd at 4.80m/15-9, the latter moving back to 2nd, 182 behind. Group A mercifully ended at 7:01 pm, 79 clearances, 89 misses, 168 attempts (a vault each 96 seconds) and one banned mascot.

After Eight: Hard 7306, Kasy 7124, Pogo 7104, Diaz 6941, Syso 6935, Suar 6908, Behr 6870, Garc & Sebr 6826, Eato 6811

Javelin: ["A" 7:14 pm, "B" 8:30 pm]

Amazingly 34 of the original 38 starters were still in it. Organizers took the early 16 departees from the vault (US organizers, please take note!) and grouped them into the first section. In round #1, Nicklas Wiberg's Swedish rifle of a right arm

fired off a 75.02m/246-1 breaking Bryan's Clay's 2001 meet record (72.00m/236-3) but, more importantly, keeping his hopes alive for a Swedish national record, something planned since Götzis. He passed his final two attempts. Of the prominent medal contenders, the 20 year old Garcia fired off a 69.37m/227-7, a ten inch PR, and Sebrle improved in round #3 to 65.61m/215-3.



Trey Hardee did not have a vault miss until he got to 5.30m/17-4½. He won the event at one bar lower.

Nine of the top 11 contenders were in Group B and Suarez drew the first lot. His spear stuck at 69.01m/226-4 but Hardee responded minutes with his own PR of 65.22m/213-11. Everyone else seemed inconsequential.

In round two Suarez upped his mark to 73.96m/242-8 and the margin was now still a whopping 265 points. But Hardee, not to be denied and not satisfied with his earlier PR, fired back with yet another career best, and this time his spear covered 66.86m/219-4 to get 25 points back. Suarez came back with a meet record 75.19m/246-8 and the gap 271 points. Wiberg's meet record lasted 95 minutes!). But, in championship style, Hardee responded once again with another PR (3 in a row!!) at 68.00m/223-1. His lead over Suarez grew to 288 points, worth about 43 seconds in the final event. Now it was just how much of a score he'd run up. O My!

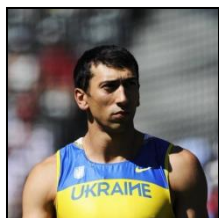
After Nine: Hard 8165, Pogo 7901, Garc 7765, Behr 7760, Syso 7742, Kasy 7696, Diaz 7680, Sebr 7649, Krau 7587, Eato 7412

1500 Meters: [10:00 and 10:15 pm]

The first section of 17 included some outstanding 1500m runners. Jake Arnold was in the race but the prohibitive favorite was muscular Daniel Armgrn/SWE who had run 4:10 earlier in the season. He took the field thru in 63.8, 2:20 and 3:26. Algerian Larbi Booraadi stalked the leaders and took over at 1200m and raced to a 6 second PR and new African record of 8171.

Nicklas Wiberg was after Raimo Pihl's Swedish national record (set at 8313 at the 1976 Olympic Games in Berlin) and he gunned it from the start. He ran an aggressive race, tied on the final straight but clocked 4:17.05 and scored 8405 moving to 7th overall. Eyes were on Suarez, Kasyanov and Pogorelov. The former did not challenge Wiberg and was content to sit and take the silver medal as

Oleksiy Kasyanov/ UKR, (r), made a valiant attempt to grab the bronze medal. His 8479 PR score was 49 points shy



Hardee's lead was overwhelming. Kasyanov tried hard to make up the 203 point to take the bronze away from Pogorelov. He pushed the pace knowing that Pogo's 1500 skills were shaky. He needed a 33 second margin and clocked 4:24.52 but the Russian kept his eyes on the Ukrainian and sprinted down the straight, 24 seconds in arrears and the medals were settled.

Hardee ran comfortably and his 4:4891 was just enough (one second) to push past Tom Pappas on the US all-time list. A helluva a meet!

After Ten: Hard 8790, Suar 8640, Pogo 8528. See results below.

Notes: I was afraid Trey will not get the recognition he deserves for his WC win because the night belonged to Usain Bolt and his 19.19 200m WR. The last time this happened was in 1991 in Tokyo when a

young Dan O'Brien scored over 8800 points to win but the glow went to Mike Powell who set a WR in the long jump and all of the attention went there. Yet the decathlon ran so late and the crowd stayed for the 1500m and Trey and the entire field go their victory lap.

Kudos to meet organizers who lowered ticket prices for the decathlon's second day and the crowd itself, most of whom stayed late to watch the 1500m which would go off at least one hour late. And mant thanks to Gettys Images for the WC photos.

Results

8/19-20 12th IAAF World Championships, Berlin, GER

8790	Hardee, Trey/USA	10.45+0.2	783+1.9	1533	199	48.14	13.86+0.3	4808	520	6800	4:48.91	4511/4279	
8640	Suarez, Leonel/CUB	11.13	0.0	724-0.3	1520	211	48.00	14.45+0.3	4471	500	7519	4:27.25	4320/4320
8528	Pogorelov, Aleksandr/RUS	10.95-0.3											749-0.4
1665	208	50.27	14.19+0.3	4846	510	6395	4:48.70	4375/4153					
8479	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	10.63+0.2		780+0.9	1572								
205	47.85	14.44-0.1		4670	480	4900	4:24.52	4555/3924					
8454	Sysoev, Alexey/RUS	10.85+0.3											687+1.0
1617	202	49.32	14.97	0.0	5303	510	6455	4:34.97	4207/4247				
8439	Behrenbruch, Pascal/GER	10.92	0.0										709+1.6
1577	202	48.72	14.24+0.3	4806	480	6972	4:39.45	4247/4192					
8405	Wiberg, Nicklas/SWE	10.96-0.4											725-0.4
1499	205	48.73	14.75+0.3	4228	450	7502	4:17.05	4257/4148					
8387	Garcia, Yordani/CUB	10.60+0.2											705+1.0
1515	208	48.34	14.08+0.3	4440	470	6937	4:49.45	4348/4039					
8357	Diaz, Yunior/CUB	10.66+0.2											772-0.3
1454	202	46.15	14.56+0.3	4352	460	6009	4:40.58	4512/3845					
8281	Krauchanka, Andrei/BLR	11.18-0.3											762+0.2
1495	211	48.77	14.13-0.1	4224	490	6071	4:37.77	4290/3991					
8266	Sebrle, Roman/CZE	11.16-0.3											780+0.7
1498	211	50.42	14.44-0.1	4630	460	6561	4:50.33	4324/3942					
8204	Barras, Romain/FRA	11.14-0.4											704+0.1
1478	199	49.66	14.27-0.1	4562	500	6124	4:27.04	4053/4151					
8171	Bouraada, Larbi/ALG	10.68+0.2											735+0.5
1230	205	48.58	14.57+0.3	3783	470	6253	4:12.15	4187/3984					
8146	Coertzen, Willem/RSA	10.89-0.4											732+0.4
1415	202	48.63	14.26-0.1	4240	460	6546	4:32.57	4157/3989					
8119	Raja, Andres/EST	10.82+0.2											738+0.4
1455	199	49.00	14.22+0.3	4275	480	5773	4:40.73	4223/3896					
8096	Müller, Noman/GER	11.01	0.0										735+0.8
1493	199	48.29	14.59+0.3	4121	480	5740	4:33.02	4234/3862					
8065	Krahlov, Vasilij/RUS	11.22+0.3											738-0.8
1495	193	49.49	14.83+0.3	4624	500	5869	4:41.54	4085/3980					
8061	Eaton, Ashton/USA	10.53+0.2											785+0.9
1226	202	47.75	14.28+0.3	3715	500	5087	4:45.03	4355/3706					
8055	Martineau, Eugene/NED	11.18-0.3											741+0.8
1266	199	50.26	14.91+0.3	4494	480	7014	4:35.27	3978/4077					
8009	Vos, Ingmar/NED	10.90	0.0										721-0.4
1378	202	49.99	14.51+0.3	4239	440	6427	4:28.51	4099/3910					
7952	Karpov, Dmitri/KAZ	11.02+0.3											686+0.2
1527	205	49.45	14.46	0.0	4893	480	5138	4:53.61	4133/3818				

7922 El Fassi, Nadir/FRA 11.12+0.3 726+0.2
1362 199 51.35 14.90 0.0 4225 480 5765 4:16.51 3962/3960
7915 Newdick, Brent/NZL 11.11-0.4 742+1.9
1435 199 50.10 14.82-0.1 4360 480 5152 4:30.57 4105/3910
7837 Arnold, Jake/USA 11.01-0.4 673+2.0
1397 196 49.07 14.40+0.3 4323 480 5737 4:35.93 3960/3877
7803 Almgren, Daniek/SWE 10.92 0.0 729 0.0 1343 199
47.68 15.14 0.0 3433 430 5669 4:13.47 4173/3730
7788 Ikeda, Daisuke/JPN 11.16-0.3 709+0.8
1343 187 49.28 14.90+0.3 3972 460 6373 4:22.39 3888/3900
7777 Cleve, Moritz/GER 11.06-0.3 727-0.3
1412 187 49.17 14.54-0.1 3962 460 5426 4:25.96 4001/3776
7710 Nikitin, Yevhen/UKR 11.04-0.4 692+0.6
1469 193 49.50 14.87+0.3 4271 460 5473 4:40.12 3996/3714
7707 Vaisjuns, Atis/LAT 11.27+0.3 694 0.0
1407 199 49.88 15.27 0.0 4202 440 5750 4:52.08 3947/3760
7680 Sossah, Mateo/FRA 11.57+0.3 704-0.4 1197 205
49.60 14.83+0.3 4125 440 5967 4:20.40 3849/3841
7649 Walter, Simon/SUI 11.05 0.0 721+0.9
1280 193 49.67 14.83 0.0 4248 500 5491 5:01.12 3939/3710
7610 Szabo, Attila/HUN 11.15-0.4 709+1.0
1392 184 49.79 14.65 0.0 4375 440 5956 4:45.64 3870/3740
7541 Felix, Agustin/ESP 11.32-0.3 719-0.5
1323 20852.41 14.80+0.3 4281 490 5010 5:00.50 3916/3625
7528 Arro, Mikk-Mihkel/EST 11.11 0.0 694+0.4
1442 190 51.28 14.82+0.3 4183 450 5621 4:44.14 3860/3668
dnf Sintnicolaas, Eelco/NED 11.05 0.0 716-0.7
1280 181 withdrew
dnf Pahapill, Mikk/EST 11.01-0.4 nm
1438 withdrew
dnf Schwarzl, Roland/AUT 11.69+0.3 nm
withdrew
dnf Smith, Maurice/JAM 29.42+0.2 withdrew
38s,34f.