

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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HARDEE's 4441 LEADS 1st Day at 95th USA NATIONLS



Hello Again.... The pre-meet blather at the 95th USA national decathlon was all about who was not in the field....and names like Eaton, Taiwo, Moss, Horn, Lazas, Beach, Scantling and Keys were bandied about like missing ghosts. And when Gunnar Nixon went down early with a hamstring injury the groans were audible. Yet nothing seemed to deter veteran Trey Hardee, 30, Austin, TX, on Thursday, June 26 at the Alex G. Spanos Complex on the Sacramento State (not 'University' incidentally) campus whose first day heroics were superb. His 4441 point score at the break exactly matched Bryan Clay's track record pace when the latter won the US Olympic Trials here in 2004. And the first day performances of Kansas State senior Devin Dick, Wesley Bray and Wisconsin's 'Double Z' Zach Ziemek were also something to write home about. Here's the action:

95th USA Senior National Champs
Alex G Spanos Complex
Sacramento State U
Sacramento, CA
June 26-27, 2014



100 Meters: [10:30-10:35 am]

Running south to north on the west side of the refurbished track at Hornet stadium, and under sunny skies, the friendly winds gave the sprinters a boost. Vet Wes Bray, 26, Houston, ran away from the first section recording 11.00. Kurtis Brondyke, 25, Clinton, IA, was second in 11.16. Wind: +1.9mps.



Trey Hardee (send from top) led the 9th USA decathlon championships from his very first step in the 100 meters. From top to bottom: Austin Bahner, Zach Ziemek, Hardee, J Patric Smith, Clay Chaney, Gunnar Nixon and Alex McCune.

Hardee drew lane 3 in the second race with Ziemek on his right. Both were clear of the field at 30 meters when Hardee simply scampered away. Without a lean his eye-opening 10.38 seconds was his 2nd fastest career deca sprint and was 36/100ths up on ZZ. Gunnar Nixon posted a swift 10.86 seconds in 3rd, 1/100th up on Austin Bahner

and J Patrick Smith. No small help from a +4.2 mps tail.

Nixon strained a weak hamstring and soon withdrew.

After One: Hard 1004, ZZ 919, Nixo 892, Bahn & Smit 890.

Long Jump: [11:45 – 12:31 pm]

The athletes had to wait until the completion of the junior women's heptathlon long jump. Grouped into two sections ZZ led off flight #1 with a 7.16m/23-6 effort and the surprising Smith, who finished a decathlon in France 10 days earlier, bounded 7.10m/23-3 ¼ in flight #2. Hardee safed a 7.22m/23-8¼ in front of 200 spectators in the east stands.



The long jump was Hardee's only disappointing event as he managed just 7.22m/23-8¼

Ziemek improved to 7.51m/24-7¾ in round #2 moving within 14 points of Hardee's lead. But Trey's 'big jump' (the guess was @7.60m) went for naught on a verrrry close foul at the toe board. Round #2 in the west pit was eccentric as Harlan was injured on a 4.51m/14-9½ limping effort and 5 of the remaining six fouled at the toe-board. All were attempting to get that 'one big jump' and since wind readings were b/w +2 and +3 mps.



Plenty of toe-board fouls in the long jump kept officials busy changing boards.

In total 1/3rd of all jumps were fouls. In round # 3 Hardee aborted and Bray improved to 7.26m/23-10. In flight #2 there was high drama as K-State's Devin Dick, facing a pair of fouls, backed off and then leaped 7.32m/24-¼ to win the pit. One had the sense that there was a lot left on the field.

After Two: Hard 1870, ZZ 1856, Bray 1737, Smit 1728.

Shot Put: [1:20 – 1:45 pm]

The decathletes trudged the 300 meters to a pair of shot circles north of the track. Clayton Chaney bested Tim Wunderlich, 14.10m/46-3¼ to 13.82m/45-4¼ in flight #2. A limping Ryan Harlan had a single big 16m foul toss and but won flight #1 at 15.68m/51-5. Hardee posted a solid 15.38m/50-5½ and the rolling Devin Dick PR'd at 15.30m/50-2½.

After Three: Hard 2683, Dick 2511, ZZ 2467, Bray 2445.

High Jump: [2:32 – 3:18 pm]

Harlan retired leaving only a single athlete in the field (Hardee) with a 8k PR, the first time that has occurred at the USA nationals since 1978! Ther crowd count was 455.

Yet nothing fazed Hardee in flight #1 (better seeded jumpers, what we called the 'east pit') who opened at 1.90m/6-2¾, passed 1.93m/6-4, and then was clean over 1.96m/6-5, 1.99m/6-6¼ and 2.02m/6-7½ the latter pair on first attempts. But wait, he wasn't finished. Facing an outdoor PR of 2.05m/6-7½(dating to the '08 bejing Olympic Games) he popped

over on his 3rd try and promptly bounded out of the pit (making certain he ducked his head under the bar) and celebrated. We scurried to his pace chart and found him well ahead of his Gotzis 8518 WL score pace.

In flight #2 Bray held sway getting the win and a PR 1.96m/6-5.

After Four: Hard 3533, Dick 3251, Bray 3212, ZZ 3207.

400 Meters: [5:20 -

Although the high jump was completed at 3:18 pm officials stayed with the original schedule and started the 400m at 5:20 pm, a two hour break. A surprising Chaney won out of lane 8 in 49.83 as Akron's Alex McUne (50.02) and ZZ (50.13) both PR'd. and BYU's Chase Dalton and Kurtis Brondyke just missed career bests.

Without Nixon and Harlan the 2nd section appeared thin. Not to worry. W/o anyone on his outside Hardee, in lane 7, bolted and raced strongly down the back straight with a nice aiding breeze. He never saw a competitor and ran strongly around the turn and into a headwind on the home straight. But he won by 9 meters (!! in a fine 48.02, his fastest clocking since Beijing –does this sound familiar?). Thomas FitzSimons was 2nd at 49.02 and Smith (who attracted dozens of followers from nearby Chico State) just missed a PR at 49.14.

Hardee's first day pace of 4441 points matched Bryan Clay's stadium record when Clay posted an 8660 score at the '04 Olympic Trials. It was also 81 points up on his 8518 Götzis pace from May. Potential here for a big score.

After Five: Hard 4441, Dick 4073, Bray 4039, ZZ 4016.

**6/26-27 95th USA Senior National Championships,
Alex G Spanos Complex, Sacramento, CA**

4441	Hardee, Trey/Nike	10.38+4.2	722+3.6	1538	205	48.02
4073	Dick, Devin/Kansas St	11.22+1.9	732+1.7	1530	193	49.85
4039	Bray, Wesley/unat	11.00+1.9	726+1.4	1367	196	49.73
4016	Ziemek, Zach/Wisconsin	10.74+4.2	751+1.0	1208	193	50.13
3963	Smith, J Patrick/Chico St	10.87+4.2	710+0.8	1256	193	49.14
3951	Chaney, Clayton/Rice	10.97+4.2	689+1.0	1410	193	49.83
3863	McCune, Alex/Akron	11.00+4.2	711+1.8	1246	190	50.02
3863	Bahner, Austin/Wichita St	10.87+4.2	693+1.7	1295	187	49.78
3859	Brondyke, Kurtis/unat	11.16+1.9	686-0.7	1351	196	50.58
3800	FitzSimons, Thomas/SBTC	11.19+1.9	684+2.1	1198	193	49.02
3794	Dalton, Chase/BYU	11.23+1.9	698+3.6	1243	193	50.28
3656	Masterson, Derek/UCSB	11.55+1.9	666+1.6	1383	187	50.86
3608	Gooris, Dan/unat	11.70+1.9	655+1.0	1331	196	51.76
2869	Wunderlich, Tim/unat	11.58+1.9	668+3.0	1382	nh	53.10
dnf	Harlan, Ryan/unat	11.38+4.2	595+2.4	1568		withdrew
dnf	Nixon, Gunnar/unat	10.86+4.2				withdrew
						16s,14f

