

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION DECA Newsletter

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THORPE CUP FIRST DAY Unheralded Stauss is Leader at the Break

Hello Again.....The 20th meeting of the USA and German national decathlon teams, (the annual Thorpe Cup) got underway on Saturday, July 27 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, CA. Team Zehnkampf, with four former medalists in tow, and in spite of arriving less than 24 hours before the competition, were ranked a slight team favorite. Veterans Simon Hechler, Max Gilkde, Mattias Prey and Steffen Fricke all played prominent roles in the recent German 3 meet win streak. Team USA was led by 23 year old Gray Horn who was 5th at the '13 USA nationals and was looking to crack 8000 points for the first time.

Yet in spite of all those predictions the first day belonged to 25 year old Rene Stauss who used a meet record 2.16m/7-1 high jump and a PR long jump top propel himself to a 4203 1st day score and the overall lead. Team Zehnlampf leads by 347 points at the break and holds down 5 of the first six spots. The top American, Gray Horn, Wapakoneta, OH is second, 80 points back of Stauss. German vets Pat Spinner, Steffen Fricke, Simon Hechler and Mattias Prey stand 3-4-5-6. Yet several of the Americans posted career best 1st day totals, and given 2nd day skills, are anything but out of the team battle. Day two in Chula Vista will be a barn burner. Here's the first day report.



German Rene Stauss, 25, Ratingen, set a meet record 2.16m/7-1 in the high jump to take the first day Thorpe Cup lead.



**20th Annual Thorpe Cup
USA vs Germany Team
Decathlon
Chula Vista, CA
July 27-28, 2013**

Day One:

100 meters: [12:13 – 12:16]

Approximately 250 spectators were on hand for the start and section #1 had the advantage of a very nice tail wind and both winner Patrick Spinner of Germany (10.87 seconds) and Northern Iowa's Dan Gooris (11.30) recorded PRs. Oregon junior Dakotah Keys was a solid 2nd in 11.10.

The coaches had placed the faster runners in the second race and Texan Isaac Murphy, 23, Fort Hood, won convincingly in 10.75 seconds as 2-3-4 provided a blanket finish: '11 winner Simon Hechler/GER with as PR 10.83, Gray Horn at 10.85 and Wichita State's Austin Bahner, 10.87. Here the wind was a modest +0.7.

After One: Murp 917, Hech 899, Horn 894, Bahn & Spin 890.

Long Jump: [12:46 – 1:29 pm]

Jumping from west to east, Horn had the longest measured jump at 7.53m/24-8 ½ in round one, yet it never made it to the scorebook. A very marginal foul negated the mark, so marginal that Horn protested immediately and officials had to measure. Horn eventually walked away still unable to see his mark in the toe-board plasticine, but his protest went for naught. The longest 'official jump' in round # 1 belonged to Bahner at 7.44m/24-5 and he took the overall lead.

In the 2nd round Hechler leaped 7.57m/24-20 to take the lead away while Horn again fouled on an even bigger leap.

In round #3 Horn safed a 7.38m/24-2½ effort, Stauss managed a 7.58m/24-11 career best and Bahner went back to the overall lead with a winning 7.66m/25-1¾ leap. It was the longest Thorpe Cup leap in 15 years.

Wesley Bray put up a PR 7.51m/24-7¾ in the final round but Prey, whose 7.88m/25-10¼ opened eyes in Ratingen, struggled throughout the event and managed a disappointing 7.40m/24-3½. The German club retook the team lead.

After two: Bahn 1865, Hech 1851, Spin 1832, Stau 1807.

Shot Put: [2:08 – 2:38 pm]

Ryan Harlan led after round #1 at

15.65m/51-4¼ and was never threatened, bumping up his mark to 16.02m/52-7 in the 3rd round. He moved from 14th to 9th overall. Only Fricke recorded a career best (14.51m/47-7¼) but several of the Yanks



German Matthias Prey moved into 4th place overall during the shot with a 15.14m/49-8 2nd place toss.

came up with solid efforts in the final round including Murphy (13.28m/43-7) and Horn (13.71m/44-11¾). Team Zehnkampf threw well enough to push their team lead to 276 points.

After Three: Hech 2567, Spin 2560, 2557, Prey 2535.

High Jump: [3:22- 4:25 pm]



Gray Horn made several bars on clutch 3rd tries and eventually posted a 2.01m/6-7 mark.

Temps were in the low 80s with little wind. The high jump moved smartly in two pits at the field's east end. The coaches had done a remarkable job in dividing the field by ability and six of the seven jumpers at the South pit recored lifetime, or nearly so, bests. Bray and German Max Gilde tied for the win at 1.95m/6-4¾, a PR for Bray, 25 from Cypress, Texas. Prey (1.89m/6-2¼) and Murphy (1.92m/6-3½) also PR'd. Group #2 (North pit) was dominated by the lanky Fricke and the lankier Stauss. The fomer zipped over a PR 2.10m/6-10¾, and Stauss took Tom Pappas's name off the meet record book with a career equalling 2.16m/7-1 win. The USA team had expected to make up some ground here and the efforts of Horn, Harlan, Keys and Gooris were top notch. But the big jumps by Fricke and Stauss carried the day and their team lead expanded to 358 points.

60 clearances in 120 jumps in 63 minutes !!!

After Four: Stau 3510, Horn 3323, Hech 3298, Spin 3265.

400 meters: [5:00 – 5:07 pm]



Texas senior Isaac Murphy might be resting here but he moved quickly in Chula Vista winning both the 100 and 400 meters.

Wes Bray led from wire-to-wire in 49.90 holding on into a stiff breeze on the home straightaway. The wind was significant as only 2 of 7 runners could break 51 seconds, making the stocky Bray's performance that much more remarkable.

Isaac Murphy won by a wide margin on the 2nd race in a nifty 48.65 ahead of Austin Bahner (49.71) and Steffen Fricke (49.85). The American team made up a small amount of ground here and appeared in solid and reliable shape given second day skills. *After Five: Stau 4204, Horn 4124, Spin 4079, Fric 4068.*

Results:



7/27-28 20th Thorpe Cup (USA vs Germany Team), Chula Vista, CA

4204	Stauss, Rene/GER	11.05+0.7	759+1.8	1435	216	52.70
4124	Horn, Gray/USA	10.85+0.7	738+2.0	1371	201	50.29
4079	Spinner, Patrick/GER	10.87+2.5	753+3.1	1399	189	50.02
4068	Fricke, Steffen/GER	11.43+2.5	704+1.1	1451	210	49.85
4061	Hechler, Simon/GER	10.83+0.7	757+2.8	1380	192	51.13
4039	Prey, Mattias/GER	11.15+0.7	740+3.5	1514	189	50.33
4038	Murphy, Isaac/USA	10.75+0.7	706+3.4	1328	192	48.65
4023	Bray, Wesley/USA	10.99+0.7	751+2.6	1265	195	49.90
4003	Bahner, Austin/USA	10.87+0.7	766+2.0	1284	183	49.70
3916	Harlan, Ryan/USA	11.26+2.5	669+1.5	1602	201	52.42
3892	Gilde, Maximillan/GER	11.15+2.5	726+2.7	1288	195	50.95
3863	Keys, Dakotah/USA	11.10+2.5	707 0.0	1300	198	51.59
3825	Gooris, Dan/USA	11.30+2.5	688+1.6	1390	195	51.09
3605	Bechert, Tom/GER	11.54+2.5	667+1.9	1218	195	51.42

Team Scores:

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
USA:	4402	8877	12,304	16,072	20,104
Germany:	4293	8930	12,880	16,430	20,451
diff:	+109	-53	-276	-358	-347



Individual Event Meet Records:

100m	10.44	Trafton Rodgers/USA
	Lubbock (+3.3)	08/09/98
LJ	7.71m (25-3 ½)	Tom Gorz/GER
	Ratingen	07/29/95
windy	7.73m(25-4 ½)	Chad Smith/USA
	Lubbock (+4.8)	08/09/98
SP	17.19m(56-4 ¾)	Norbert Demmel/GER
	Ratingen	07/29/95
HJ	2.16m (7- 1)	Rene Stauss/GER
	Chula Vista	07/27/13
400m	47.08	Stefan Drewes/GER
	Bernhausen	07/22/01
110mH	13.92	Darwin Vande Hoef/USA
	Edwardsville(+2.9)	7/17/96
Disc	54.78m (179-9)	Norbert Demmel/GER
	Ratingen	07/30/95
PV	5.30m (17-4½)	Mario Sategna/USA
	Kreutzal	07/27/97
		David Lemen/USA
	Bernhausen	08/03/03
Jav	69.98m (229-7)	Stefan Schmid/GER
	Aachen	08/08/93
1500m	4:09.07	Kip Janvrin/USA
	Aachen	08/08/99
1 st day	4472	Tom Pappas/USA
	Marburg	08/08/09
2 nd day	4166	Kip Janvrin/USA
	Aachen	08/08/93
	4183w	Kip Janvrin/USA
	Edwardsville	07/18/96
Total	8569	Tom Pappas/USA
	Marburg	08/08-09/09