

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION DECA Newsletter

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EATON & NIXON SHINE on DAY #1 9 Points Separate US teammates



Hello Again.....

As comic Art Buchwald used to tell me, “you can’t make this stuff up.” The 14th IAAF world decathlon championships in Moscow’s Luzhniki Stadium took so many twists and turns that it resembled the angles of a billiards tournament. For example, during the afternoon high jump the 2x and defending champ Trey Hardee ‘nh’d’ while Olympic kingpin Ashton Eaton inexplicably could only manage, for him, a mediocre 1.93m/6-4. Their teammate, the meet’s youngest performer, Gunnar Nixon, simply took over, winning the event and built a sizeable overall point spread. Hardee subsequently withdrew, Nixon gunned it during the 400m setting up his score as a target for Eaton who responded with a lifetime dec best 46.02. At the end of the day the pair of Americans stood 1-2 and only 9 points apart. 5 others had to be considered medal threats no, including the high flying Nixon. Here’s what happened to end day one.

**14th IAAF World Champs
Luzhniki Stadium
Moscow, Russia
August 10-11, 2013**



Day One

High Jump: [3:30 – 5:45 pm]

During the break Dmitriy Karpov/KAZ and Jeremy Taiwo/USA withdrew reducing the field to 31 and assuring that we’ll have only 4



The 400 meters saw significant efforts by Ashton Eaton (left) and Gunnar Nixon (right). Eaton ran a deca lifetime best 46.02 while Nixon just missed his own PR

sections of the 400 meters. For Taiwo he had some pain and no pop in his left knee and could not get off the ground

After a two hour break the meet resumed with the high jump at 3:30 pm. Because Ashton Eaton and Trey Hardee posted mediocre high jump results during their abbreviated season they were relegated to the lower pit (Group B). See my morning #49 tirade about this issue. As a matter of fact a pair of other 7 foot jumpers (Leonel Suarez, Kurt Felix) were also dumped



The end came all too quickly in Moscow for Trey Hardee who high jump nh'd at 1.90m/6-2¾, his nitial career high jump 'nh.'

into the lower seeded pit (2.04m/6-8¼ made the cut) which then had unusually good performances.

This event, sans Nixon, was a USA disaster. In Group B, thankfully the jumping was done in the shade. It took Suarez 3 tries to clear his opener, 1.84m/6-½ in B. Hardee too had a pair of misses at his opener at 1.90m/6-2¾, slipping badly on his 2nd effort. On his 3rd try he faulted at 28 secoinds then limped to the bar. His chance for a record tying 3rd medal was over. He walked off, with no word yet of an injury.

Eaton struggled at 1.96m/6-5 using a new circular approach. His 3rd failure brought moans from the crowd but he was not in trouble. But standings were changing on the infield in a hurry. When Schrader equalled a PR at 1.99m/6-6¼ he was back in the medal hunt and back to the overall lead. Yet he lost it a few minutes later when Nixon skied 2.05m/6-8¾ in Group A. A clearance at the same bar by Warner moved him to 3rd

In Group A Nixon opened at 1.99m/6-6¼ just as the leader of the women's marathon entered the stadium but the crowd ,noise did not unfaze him. He went on to clear 2.05m/6-8¾ and 2.08/6-9¾ quite easily. This would be his moment to shine.



Nixon won the high jump in Moscow at 2.14m/7-¼ to push his overall lead to 110 points.

At 2.08m in both pits had to wait for women steepchasers to pass each lap. At that bar Krauchanka (in A) and 2012 NCAA champ/GRN Kurt Felix (in B cleared on 3rd attempts.

At 2.11m/6-11 it seemed like an NCAA affair as only 4 remained and 3 we current/former US collegians (Uibo/Georgia, Felix/ex Boise St and Nixon, ex Arkansas).

At 2.14 it was an all SEC contest. Only Felix was unable to go on so 3 jumped in Group A at 2.14m/7-¼ . When he cleared on his 2nd try his overall lead over Schrader grew to 110 and 106 over Eaton. Conditions were, well, muggy.

At a PR equalling 2.17m/7-1½ Nixon, who now trains in Chula Vista, failed twice and had the crowd (now about 7000 for evening session) total attention. He may be on center stage for a long time. His 3rd try ever so close but unsuccessful. In 2 hours and 15 minutes 218 attempts netted 121 clearances. Almost two hours of rest greeted the athletes.

Progression:

Group A	190	193	196	199	202	205	208	211	214	217	220
Taiwo											withdrew
Nixon	p	p	p	o	p	o	o	o	xo	o	
Group B	187	190	193	196	199	202	205	208	211	214	
Hardee		p	ooo								
Eaton		o	p	xo	ooo						

After four: Nixo 3611, Schr 3501, Eato 3495, Warn 3492.

400 meters: [7:44 – 8:07 pm]

I believe organizers had originally scheduled for 4 sections for 400m and the large starting field size (34) would have required 5.... only 8 lanes on the turn. So they decided to wait until the last minute hoping for no shows or drop-outs before the event to set the races and lanes. So the lane assignments came at 5:30 pm when only 31 athletes remained. A disappointing crowd for a Saturday evening as the stadium was only 1/3 full.

In the first race Trey Hardee and Kurt Felix were also no shows leaving lane 4 & 5 vacant and the only potential medal contender was Suarez in lane 6. Suarez was in control until the home stretch when he was overtaken by Dudas, 47.73 to 48.21. It was awindless evening.

The 2nd race matched young Frenchman Mayer and Schrader in lanes 4 & 5. Schrader took no prisoners clocking a 47.66 for a huge PR and he now had to be considered a medal threat as he left a solid field in the dust.

The 3rd race had the 3 Russians plus Nixon in lane 4. When a Russian was on the w long jump runway exhorting rhythmic clapping from the crowd Nixon asked for a stand-up. It would have been hard to even hear the commands. Eduard Mikhan/BLR led until coiaght by Coertzen at the tape. Nixon came off the final turn in 2nd and was caught, hung on and clocked a SB 48.56 for a 44.93 first day. At this point Eaton needed a 46.30 to regain the overall lead.

Race 3	name/lane	reaction	points
48.32	Will Coertzen/RSA(1)	0.181	894
48.39	Ilya Shkurennev/RUS(5)	0.204	890
48.56	Gunnar Nixon/USA(4)	0.159	882
48.80	Eduard Mikhan/BLR(8)	0.207	871
49.00	T. Van der Plaesten/BEL(3)	0.179	861
49.01	Artem Lukyanenko/RUS(2)	0.208	861
49.65	Andrei Krauchanka/BLR(6)	0.198	831
51.13	Sergey Sviridiv/RUS(7)	0.185	763

Ashton drew lane 7, reacted well, made up the stagger on Freimuth within 70 meters, ran under control and came off the



final turn with an 11 meter lead. He did not falter and gunned it to the finish in 46.02, his fastest deca

400m (does this answer any question???) and took the first day lead away from Nixon by a scant points. Only Behrenbruch ran aa PR and he too had to be considered a medal threat.

Race 4		reaction	points
46.02	Ashton Eaton/USA(7)	0.163	1007
48.05	Rico Freimuth/GER(8)	0.204	907
48.25	Eelco Sintinoicolaas/NED(6)	0.188	897
48.40	Pascal behrenbruch/GER(5)	0.144	890
48.78	Gael Querin/FRA(4)	0.204	872
48.67	Pelle Reitveld/NED(3)	0.142	877
48.41	Damian Warner/CAN(2)	0.163	889
48.80	Carlos Chinin/BRA(1)	0.173	871

After five: Eato 4502, Nixo 4493, Schr 442, Warn 4381.



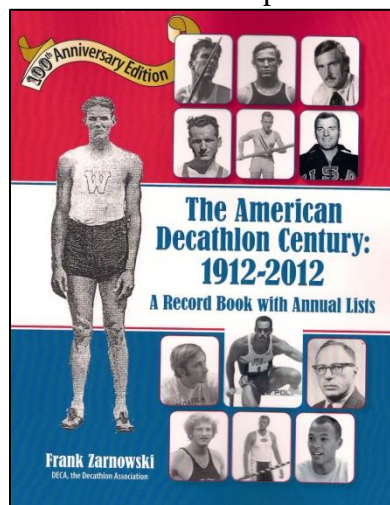
Results After Day One:

4502	Eaton, Ashton/USA	10.35-0.5	773+0.3	1439	193	4602
4493	Nixon, Gunnar/USA	10.84-0.5	780+0.4	1468m	48.56	
4318	Sintnicolaas, Eelco/NED	10.85-0.5	768+0.8	1408	202	48.25
4449	Schrader, Michael/GER	10.73-0.5	785+0.21	1456	199	47.66
4381	Warner, Damian/CAN	10.43-0.5	739+0.3	1423	205	48.41
4296	Freimuth, Rico/GER	10.60-0.5	722+1.3	1480	196	48.05
4258	Behrenbruch, Pascal/GER	10.95+0.1	719+0.6	1586	199	48.40
4257	Coertzen, Willem/RSA	10.95+0.1	744+1.8	1388	205	48.32
4256	Dudas, Mihail/SRB	10.67-0.5	751+0.7	1345	196	47.73
4251	Chinin, Carlos /BRA					

10.78-0.1 754+1.0 1449 196 48.80
 4244 Krauchanka, Andrei/BLR
 11.19+0.1 739-0.21484 211 49.65
 4226 Shkureniov, Ilya/RUS
 10.97-0.1 735+0.1 1388 205 48.39
 4224 Van der Plaetsen, Tom/BEL
 11.09+0.1 764+0.4 1357 205 49.00
 4158 Mikhan, Eduard/BLR
 10.97-0.5 742+0.1 1415 196 48.80
 4145 Mayer, Keviin/FRA
 11.23-0.1 750+0.1 1376 205 49.53
 4122 Vos, Ingmar/NED
 10.98+0.1 745+0.7 1381 205 51.02
 4092 Suarez, Leonel/CUB
 11.07+0.5 733+0.3 1420 190 48.21
 4092 Uibo, Maicel/EST
 11.21-0.1 726 0.0 1368 211 50.60
 4081 Lukyanenko, Artem/RUS
 11.11-0.1 709+0.6 1443 199 49.01
 4025 Newdick, Brent/NZL
 11.14-0.5 728+0.2 1384 202 50.25
 4029 Pahapill, Mikk/EST
 11.33-0.5 712+0.7 1438 199 49.84
 4012 Kasyanov, Olexiy/UKR
 10.99-0.5 728+0.8 1405 190 49.75
 3969 Sviridov, Sergey/RUS
 10.98-0.1 730+1.2 1420 190 51.13
 3931 Querin, Gael/FRA
 11.19+0.1 718+0.5 1303 190 48.78
 3837 Reitveld, Pelle/NED
 11.15-0.1 668+0.5 1321 190 48.67
 3807 Gastaldi, Román/ARG
 11.20-0.5 689+0.9 1396 187 dq
 3748 Nilsson, Marcus/SWE
 11.42+0.1 662 0.0 1481 187 50.56
 3746 Ushiro, Keisuke/JAP
 10.73-0.5 684+0.7 1317 196 51.20
 3645 Kame, Ali/MAD
 11.48-0.5 672+0.7 1273 190 50.87
 dnf Felix, Kurt/GRN
 11.20-0.5 742 0.0 1295 208 withdrew
 dnf [2634] Hardee, Trey/USA
 10.52-0.5 735+0.7 1461 nh withdrew
 dnf [2479] Taiwo, Jeremy/USA
 10.96-0.1 753+0.6 1299
 dnf [2312] Karpov, Dmitri/KAZ
 11.37-0.1 659+0.5 1539
 33s,29f.

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*The American Decathlon Century: 1912-2012,
A Record Book with Annual Lists*

By Frank Zarnowski
528 pages. [8½ x 11]

Published by DECA, The Decathlon Association, 2012
ISBN: 0-9768358-1-9

HOW TO ORDER: you can order via mail:

Price: \$40 US
30 Euro

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