

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION DECA Newsletter

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EATON-HARDEE BATTLE

Ash with 222 point lead with 2 Events Remaining

Hello Again... This newsletter is the third of four scheduled to cover the 23rd Olympic decathlon from London and covers the morning session thru the pole vault of day 2. Ashton Eaton continues to lead a fierce competition which harkens back to the 1956 Melbourne Games when Milt Cambell edged USA teammate Rafer Johnson. Are we in for another USA 1-2?



**Olympic Games Decathlon
London, UK
August 8-9, 2012**

Day Two:

There was little talk of another world record by Ashton Eaton but the Olympic games meet record of 8897 by Roman Sebrle in '04 was in jeopardy.

110m Hurdles: [9:00 – 9:25 am]

Race 1... The weather broke clear and sunny. 24 year old Kurt Felix of St David's, Grenada, two months removed from his NCAA win in Des Moines, withdrew so there were but 5 starters. Uzbekistan's Rifat Artikov was the lone athlete to break 15 seconds as he ran a seasonal best, 14.74

Section 1: 9:01 am [wind: -0.9mps] [set-to-gun:]

pl	lane	sb	pr	reaction	time	pts
1	8	Artikov, Rifat/UZB	[14.75/14.61]	0.180	14.74	881
2	7	Knobel, Jan felix/GER	[14.61/14.61]	0.167	15.03	846
3	5	Erins, Edgars/LAT	[/14.56]	0.183	15.22	823
4	2	Sviridov, Sergey/RUS	[14.83/14.83]	0.162	15.42	799
5	6	Ushiro, Keisuke/JPN	[15.01/14.93]	0.186	15.47	794
3		Felix, Kurt/GRN	[14.77/14.77]	0.1	dns	
4		Dudas, Mihail/SRB	[14.78/14.78]	0.1	dns	



Clearing the final barrier in London was not pretty for Trey Hardee. Nonetheless, he raced to a close win over Ashton Eaton with a PR 13.54 to 13.56. Hello!

Race 2... If Leonel Suarez/CUB had any chance for the silver medal he needed a big score here. But he did not get it (3rd in 14.45) and would be relegated to a fight for the silver from here on. Only South African Willem Coertzen PR'd, winning in 14.15 seconds.

Section 2: 9:09 am [wind: +1.0mps] [set-to-gun:]

pl	lane	sb	pr	reaction	time	pts
1	7	Coertzen, Willem/RSA	[14.34/14.26]	0.188	14.15	955
2	3	Garcia, Yordani/CUB	[14.37/13.89]	0.178	14.24	944
3	2	Suarez, Leonel/CUB	[14.34/14.12]	0.159	14.45	917
4	5	Vos, Ingmar/NED	[14.35/14.29]	0.146	14.61	897
5	8	van Alphen, Hans/BEL	[14.55/14.55]	0.166	14.89	863
6	4	Szabo, Attila/HUN	[14.66/14.52]	0.167	14.92	859
7	6	Newdick, Brent/NZL	[14.55/14.38]	0.145	15.02	847

Race 3...

This was the Oleksiy Kasyanov of old. He controlled the race from the gun to tape and finished in a PR 14.09 seconds to move to within 3 points of 3rd overall. BelaRussian Eddie Mikhan also PR'd (14.15) but Pascal Behrenbruch continued his post Euro champs slide. He would be 13th after six.

The main casualty was young Kevin Mayer, pressing, he crashed the 8th hurdle and stumbled in.

Section 3:9:17 am [wind: -0.4mps] [set-to-gun: 1.20]

pl	lane	sb	pr	reaction	time	pts
1	2	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	[14.23/14.23]	0.150	14.09	963
2	6	Mikhan, Eduard/BLR	[14.20/14.20]	0.139	14.15	955
3	4	Behrenbruch, Pascal/GER	[14.16/14.02]	0.144	14.33	932
4	5	Shkurenev, Ilya/RUS	[14.24/14.24]	0.155	14.39	925
5	3	Karpov, Dmitriy/KAZ	[14.26/13.93]	0.146	14.40	924
6	8	de Araujo, Luiz Al/BRA	[14.12/13.94]	0.197	14.79	875
7	7	Mayer, Kevin/FRA	[14.21/14.21]	0.162	15.59	780

Race 4... What a sight...total dominance by the USA pair. If one had wandered in off the street one would conclude that...yes, those cheeky Yanks can hurdle! This may not have been the mass Atlanta '96 finish, but it was one splendid contest.

Trey Hardee was as collected and competitive as he's ever been. With a PR of 13.61 he raced Ashton Eaton stride for stride for the first 5 barriers, took a slight lead at the 6th and held off a frantic rush by Eaton to capture the 4th race in a PR 13.54, the 3rd fastest deca hurdles ever. Only Germany's Frankie Busemann ('96) and Eaton himself have ever run faster.

Eaton ran a fine race as well, clocking 13.56 (his 2nd fastest deca hurdles) actually getting nearer to his WR pace. But the event belonged to the 6-4 Hardee, 28, Austin, Texas. Any concern that he was not in top form were erased here.

Inexplicably Damian Warner, who lite up day one with a big PR and was expected to hold his own here, faltered. But Florida State's Gonzalo Barroilhet posted a fine 14.14 behind Rico Freimuth's terrific 13.89. And the slowish 14.43 time of Eelco Sintincolaas/NED took him out of the medal hunt.

This was, in another sense, truly an American race featuring grads from Texas, Oregon, Florida State, Tennessee and Kansas State.

Section 4: 9:25 am [wind: +0.1] [set-to-gun: 1.57]

pl	lane	sb	pr	reaction	time	pts
1	4	Hardee, Trey/USA	[13.61/13.61]	0.171	13.54	1035
2	7	Eaton, Ashton/USA	[13.34w/13.34w]	0.169	13.56	1032
3	6	Freimuth, Rico/GER	[13.79/13.79]	0.189	13.89	989
4	8	Barroilhet, Gonzalo/CHI	[13.81/13.78]	0.173	14.12	959
5	2	Addy, Jangy/LBR	[14.05/13.70]	0.142	14.23	945
6	3	Warner, Damian/CAN	[13.61/13.61]	0.154	14.38	926
7	9	Sintincolaas, Eelco/NED	[14.10/14.10]	0.212	14.43	920
8	5	Draudvila, Darius/LTU	[14.07/14.07]	0.175	14.87	865

After Six: Eato 5693, Hard 5476, Warn 5312, Kasy 5309.

Discus: [9:55- 10:40 am and 11:07 am – 11:57 am]

Two groups were seeded with the weaker throwers (Group B) throwing first. There was high drama in the first group which contained four who appeared to be contending



Ashton Eaton took a disappointing 42.53/139-6 away from the discus event.

for the bronze medal. Perhaps they were feeling the pressure for, in the first round, 3 of them fouled (Sintincolaas, van Alphen and Suarez) and Damian Warner's 42.09m/138-1 toss was nothing to write back to Canada about.

In round #2 van Alphen/BEL led off with a big PR, 48.16m/158-0. Sintincolaas's 32.26m/105-10 was no answer but Warner's PR's at 45.77m/150-2 was. Suarez then fluttered one that landed at 25.82m/84-8 away. He was now in danger of no medal.

In the final round van Alphen kept the pressure on with another PR, 48.28m/158-5

(the wining mark) but Sintinicolaas's anemic 32.06m/105-2 made him history. That left Warner and Suarez throwing at the bottom of the order. Warner spun another fine platter, a PR 45.90m/150-7 to maintain his hold on 3rd overall. But Suarez, one of the events terrific competitors, now facing a total collapse, responded with a near PR of his own. 45.75m/150-1 and given his final 3 events, was still in the hunt.

In Group A (top throwers), Eaton, throwing 5th, low planed a 42.53m/139-6 and Hardee, at the bottom of the order, fluttered 44.06m/144-7. But Kasyanov kept himself in the medal picture with a 46.72m/153-3 effort to maintain 3rd overall.

In the 2nd round Eaton did not improve (42.27m/138-8) but Hardee used a smooth turn and fast arm to cover 48.26m/158-4 of London real estate pulling within 99 points of Eaton's leading total. Germany's Rico Freimuth PR'd at 49.11m/161-1 to lead the event.

For most of the event live streaming ignored the discus in favor of relay qualifying rounds. In the final round Ashton fouled and now found himself in a real battle with his teammate who did not improve (46.71m/153-3). The battle for 3rd was now a 5 way affair: Warner, Kasyanov, van Alphen, Suarez with Freimuth elbowing his way into the group and looking more like a medal contender. Off previous bests the former two would have a hard time with the latter 3. And the Cuban and Belgian can run!

After Seven: Eato 6409, Hard 6310, Kasy 6111, Warn 6097.

Pole Vault: [1:02- 4:14 pm]

The stadium was no better than ¼ full during the vault and the early story was the seasonal improvement of Damian Warner/CAN who went from 4.40m in March to 4.56m in May to 4.80m in July. He managed 4.70m/15-5 here and had then to wait for the potential onslaught of other vaulters.

Suarez too struggled, uncharacteristically, managing just 4.70m/15-5, and a few of the other contenders began to medal salivate

including van Alphen and Freimuth. Amazingly there were no no heights,

In Group B Kasyanov/UKR cleared 4.40m/14-5¼ then took a chance a passed the



Eaton's clearance at 5.20m/17- ¾ was textbook.

next bar. He did manage 4.60m/15-1.

In Group A Eaton opened with a safe 4.60m/15-1 jump and Hardee needed two attempts to manage 4.80m/15-9, his opener. At 4.90m/16-¾ there were still 8 left in group A including 2 who had yet to start(Sintinicolaas and Barroilhet). Freimuth awakened the crowd with an acrobatic and unusual clearance to open the vaulting and Eaton followed with a soild jump. Barro used 3 attempt to clear here but van Alphen lost a golden opportunity (and the 30 additional points) when he was unable to get by this bar.

At 5.00m/16-4¾ Hardee returned but bailed out. There was some headwind on the infield. But Eaton skied this bar and gave the crowd a 'Bolt' signature in the pit. Hardee bailed out again raising some concerns. He had plenty of height on his 3rd try but nailed the bar with his arm and any challenge to Eaton evaporated here.

Ashton narrowly missed his 1st try at 5.10m/16-8¾, a height at which Sintinicolaas

started. No longer a medal contender, the Dutchman had no problem here and either did Karpov. Ashton's 2nd vault was textbook in every sense and now there was talk of bagging Sebrle's meet record mark.

At 5.20m/17-¾ five remained in Group A and Ash smoked his first try. Rather than stay on the infield where they was no shade. Is anyone planning??--there were just two small umbrellas for the 28 athletes!?! Ashton packed his poles and headed for the shade of the tunnell to rest for the javelin.

Meanwhile, in group B Kasyanov could not take advantage but Keisuke Ushiro/JPN did manage 4.90/16-¾, = PR, to win the competition there.

Barroilhet and Sintinicolaas pressed on in Pit A but with no overall place consequence. Barro cleared 5.40m/17-8½ on his first try (moving him to 10th overall) and Sintinicolaas passed. At 5.50m/18-½ Barro, the Florida State senior who would turn 26 in ten days, and using a left ear piece (hearing aid?), had a single good attempt. Neither could manage this bar and the event abruptly ended and the 3 hour, 13 minute event thankfully ended. 222 attempts in two pits [84 clearances, 128 misses] at 15 different bars is rather pedestrian pace, even with a time clock.

Eaton's lead was now 222 points to the good.

	460	470	480	490	500	510	520
Eaton	o	p	o	o	o	xo	o
Hardee	p	o	xo	p	xxx		

After Eight: eato 7381, Hard 7159, Frei 6927, Warn 6916

Results:

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7381	Eaton, Ashton/USA-OreTC	10.35+0.4	803+0.8	1466	205	46.90	13.56+0.1	4253	520
7159	Hardee, Trey/USA-Nike	10.42+0.4	753+1.1	1528	199	48.11	13.54+0.1	4826	480
6927	Freimuth, Rico/GER	10.65+0.4	721-0.1	1487	190	48.06	13.89+0.1	4911	490
6916	Warner, Damian/CAN	10.48+0.4	754+0.9	1373	205	48.20	14.38+0.1	4590	470
6901	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	10.56+0.4	755-0.4	1445	199	48.44	14.09-0.4	4672	440
6889	Van Alphen, Hans/BEL								

11.05-0.7	764+1.5	1548	205	49.18	14.89+1.0	4828	480
6871	Karpov, Dmitriy/KAZ						
10.91-0.2	721-0.2	1647	199	49.83	14.40-0.4	4493	510
6783	Suarez, Leonel/CUB						
11.27+0.7	752+0.5	1450	211	49.04	14.45+1.0	4575	470
6652	Sviridoiv, Sergey/RUS						
10.78-0.7	745-2.1	1442	199	48.91	15.42-0.9	4743	460
6646	Barroilhet, Gonzalo/CHI						
11.18-0.2	680+0.31449	205	51.07	14.12+0.1	4127	540	
6640	Shkurenev, Ilya/RUS						
11.01-0.2	725+1.1	1289	202	49.81	14.39-0.4	4351	510
6620	Behrenbruch, Pascal/GER						
11.06-0.7	715+0.4	1567	196	50.04	14.33-0.4	4471	470
6595	Coertzen, Willem/RSA						
11.09+0.7	717+0.7	1379	205	48.56	14.15+1.0	4358	450
6577	Sintinicolaas, Eelco/NED						
10.85+0.4	737+1.3	1418	193	48.85	14.43+0.1	3226	530
6562	Mikhan, Eduatd/BLR						
10.74+0.4	694-0.1	1475	193	48.42	14.15-0.4	4442	440
6561	Newdick, Brent/NZL						
11.10-0.2	736+1.1	1509	196	50.22	15.02+1.0	4615	470
6544	de Araujo, Luiz Alberto/BRA						
10.70+0.4	716+1.2	1352	193	48.25	14.79-0.4	4476	460
6531	Garcia, Yordani/CUB						
10.80-0.7	675-0.2	1448	199	48.76	14.24+1.0	4227	460
6478	Addy, Jangy/LBR						
10.89-0.7	690+0.7	1487	193	48.64	14.23+0.1	4561	420
6424	Draudvila, Darius/LTU						
10.95-0.7	712+1.3	1517	196	50.13	14.87+0.1	4643	420
6424	Vos, Ingmar/NED						
10.98-0.7	727+0.5	1357	196	49.62	14.61+1.0	4226	450
6387	Mayer, Kevin/FRA						
11.32-0.2	717+1.5	1405	205	48.66	15.59-0.4	4120	470
6305	Knobel, Jan-Felix/GER						
11.42-0.2	705-0.5	1529	190	49.87	15.03-0.9	4610	440
6265	Szabo, Attila/HUN						
11.15-0.2	696+0.9	1393	190	50.83	14.92+1.0	4514	460
6245	Erins, Edgar/LAT						
10.99-0.7	698+0.6	1345	193	50.62	15.22-0.9	4510	450
6223	Ushiro, Keisuke/JPN						
11.32+0.7	686+1.1	1359	199	50.78	15.47-0.9	4666	480
6010	Artikov, Rifat/UZB						
11.37+0.7	641+1.6	1411	193	51.91	14.75-0.9	4353	440
dnf	Felix, Kurt/GRN						
11.12-0.2	763+0.5	1328	205	50.17	withdrew		
dnf	Dudas, Mihail/SRB						
10.90-0.7	753+1.0	1376	196	withdrew			
dnf	Sebrle, Roman/CZE	11.54+0.7	withdrew				
dnf	Awde, Daniel/GBR	10.71-0.7	683+1.1	withdrew			
31s,27f							