

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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HARDEE's 8689 a CHAMPION at GOTZIS Smith is NACAC Winner

Hello Again....The final weekend in May came to a close on Saturday evening in Kingston, Jamaica with Maurice Smith's NACAC victory and on Sunday afternoon at Mösle Stadium in Götzis Austria where Trey Hardee maintained his hot pace and pasted a terrific 27 man field by a whopping 249 points. Hardee's final tally of 8689 is his 2nd best career score, 101 down on his 8790 PR set at the '09 IAAF worlds in Berlin (see box).

Here's the story:



**37th Hypo-Bank Meeting
Mosle Stadium
Götzis, Austria
May 28-29, 2011**

110m Hurdles: [10:05 am]

The weather was even better on day 2, clear, brisk, and 70 degrees at race time. Götzis church bells gonged as the athletes in the first race went to their starting blocks.

Young Austrian Dominic Distelberger won the first section of four in 14.28. The 2nd race resembled a German intra-squad meet but was captured by Thomas Van Der Plaetsen of Belgium in 14.65. Oleksiy Kasyanov/UKR (14.26) beat Cuba's Leonel Suarez (14.35) to the tape in the 3rd race. The first 3 sections all face slight headwinds: -0.8, -0.4, and -0.9 mps. The wind died during the final and seeded race and Trey Hardee let no one on down. His eye-opening PR 13.73 illustrated just how dominant he was at this



Trey Hardee, 27, Austin, TX, manhandled the Götzis field with a season opening 8689 score.

meet as he won by 4 steps over Rico Freimuth (14.05) whose father Uwe (part of the East German team) won the first Götzis meet I attended, in 1988. Approximately 1000 spectators were on hand for the 1st event. *After Six: Hard 5563, Kasy 5231, Frie 5132, Garc 5082.....Arno 4625.*

Discus: [11:05 am]

As always, Götzis concurrently utilizes inside (the stadium) and outside circles. Outside the winner was Matthias Prey/GER in 47.87m/157-0, believed to be a record for the outside circle. Inside the

stadium there was high drama as Hardee opened at a solid 45.20m/148-4 then tossed the next two out of bounds, effectively negating a chance at a PR or 8800 score. The event winner was 6-5 Mikk Pahapill/EST who tossed 48.79m/160-0 in the 2nd round. Pascal Behrenbruch awoke with a 47.01m/154-3 fling. Hardee's lead was now 296 points. *After Seven: Hard 6334, Kasy 6038, Frie 5925, Paha 5903.....19th Arno 5375.*

Pole Vault: [12:50 pm]

Two adjacent pits, vaulting from east to west. The crowd had grown to 3000. Prey, in Group B and Garcia, Group A promptly no-heighted. In Group B (lower seeded pit) the winner was the awakened Behrenbruch who PR'd at 4.86m/15-11¼

As expected Dutchman Eelco Sintinicolaas won group A with a 5.36m/17-7 clearance. Roland Schwartzl scraped over 5.16m/16-11, then declined to finish the meet.

Three, including Hardee and Pahapill got over 5.06m/16-7¼. It was an outdoor PR for the latter, but they could not go higher. Since Kasyanov managed but 4.76m/15-7¼ Trey actually added another 92 points to his overall



Jake Arnold (bottom left) watches Hardee's first vault attempt at 5.06m.

lead, but fell off his own PR pace. Jake Arnold got back on track with a 4.96m/16-3 ¼ clearance.

After Eight: Hard 7263, Kasy 6875, Paha 6832, Sint 6778....17th Arno 6273.

Javelin: [3:35 and 4:45 pm]

Grouped by elimination from the vault, the winner of the first group was Dutchman Igmarr Vos who speared 65.28m/214-2.

In Group A Cuban Leonel Suarez placed himself into medal contention with a 75.49m/247-8 1st round rocket that had the Götzis crowd howling. Off course it won the event.

Trey opened at 62.52m/205-1 and improved to 63.33m/207-9 in round #2 before fouling I round #3. Regardless, he has already pushed past the 8000 barrier. His lead, now over Pahapill, was 337 points. Kasyanov (this is his Achilles heel) could manage but 51.62m/169-4 as he fell all the way to 7th place damaging his medal chances. Big throws for Knoebel (72.99m/239-5) and Pahapill (69.53m/228-1) pushed them into medal contention.

Jake Arnold managed a 56.45m/185-2 effort.

After Nine: Hard 8051, Paha 7714, Suar 7664, Knoe 7629..Kasy 7th 7488,.17th Arno 6958.

1500m: [6:00 pm]

By now only 20 athletes remained and officials wisely ran a single section.

Belgium's Hans Van Alpen outsprinted German Norman Müller to the tape...more important for the latter who fell 3 points shy of the coveted 8000 point score.

All eyes were on Hardee who ran comfortably in the middle of the pack and crossed in 4:46.88. His final tally was 8689. For those who may be a bit disappointed in the final score, expecting something that started with "87" (indeed he fell 2 seconds shy in the final event), I would only caution ...not to worry. This is Trey's highest season opening score ever...by 173 points in '09 when he ultimately scored 8790. It is the 2nd best score in his career, his 8th 8k and bodes verrrrrry well for Daegu. What was crucial here was the degree of dominance on the field. Olympic bronze medalist Leonel Suarez

came home in 4:25.33 and totaled 8440. Trey's margin was 249 points, one of the largest ever at Götzis.

Adding 100 point to his own PR, tall Mikk Pahapill of Estonia was 3rd and a pair of young Germans impressed, Jan-Felix Knoebel (8288) and Rico Freimuth (8158), both PRs by a ton. Future German decathlon fortunes will be in their hands. Jake Arnold dnf's the final event, ultimately placing 19th.

After Ten: Hard 8689, Suar 8440, Paha 8398, Sint 8304..... 19th Arno 6958.

Trey Hardee PR Pace										
[8/19-20/09 IAAF World Champs, Berlin]										
	Berlin '09				Götzis '11					
event	mark	pts	cum pts	mark	pts	cum pts	+/-			
100m	10.45	987		10.44	989					
LJ	7.83m	1017	2004	7.88m	1030	2019	+15			
SP	15.33m	810	2814	15.63m	828	2847	+33			
HJ	1.99m	794	3608	2.00m	803	3650	+42			
400m	48.13	903	4511	48.12	903	4553	+42			
110H	13.86	993	5504	13.73	1010	5563	+59			
Disc	48.08m	830	6334	45.20m	771	6334	0			
PV	5.20m	972	7306	5.06m	929	7263	-43			
Jav	68.00m	859	8165	63.33m	788	8051	-115			
1500m	4:48.91	625	8790	4:46.88	638	8689	-101			

Results:

5/28-29 37th Hypo-Bank Meeting, Götzis, AUT

8689	Hardee, Trey/USA-Nike	10.44-0.7
788+0.6	1563 200 48.12 13.73 0.0 4520 506 6333	4:46.88
8440	Suarez, Leonel/CUB	11.06+0.6
721-0.4	1348 206 48.85 14.35-0.9 4457 486 7549	4:25.33
8398	Papapill, Mikk/EST	11.08+0.9
739-0.3	1548 203 50.95 14.70-0.9 4879 506 6953	4:39.41
8304	Sintnicolaas, Eelco/NED	10.84+0.4
740-0.9	1431 191 48.69 14.57-0.9 4174 536 5948	4:22.29
8288	Knoebel, Jan-Felix/GER	11.14-0.8
723+1.2	1547 194 49.23 14.77-0.4 4668 496 7299	4:43.39
8251	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	10.75-0.7
738+0.8	1408 203 48.11 14.26-0.9 4694 476 5162	4:27.12
8158	Freimuth, Rico/GER	10.79+0.4
711-0.3	1465 194 48.22 14.05 0.0 4625 476 6033	4:44.39
8114	Newdick, Brent/NZL	10.96-0.6
745+0.4	1417 194 49.61 14.76-0.9 4665 466 6303	4:32.50
8105	Vos, Igmarr/NED	10.85+0.4
745-0.4	1394 200 51.12 14.45-0.8 4151 466 6528	4:27.73
8064	Berhenbruch, Pascal/GER	10.99+0.6
687+0.9	1644 197 50.31 14.60 0.0 4701 486 6460	4:56.12
8045	Van Alphen, Hans/BEL	11.10+0.9
750-0.3	1335 200 49.58 14.96-0.8 4632 446 6085	4:21.86
7997	Müller, Norman/GER	11.07+0.6
730+0.7	1482 200 49.43 14.98-0.8 3879 476 5864	4:22.09
7973	Van Der Plaetsen, Thomas/BEL	11.31-0.8
742-0.1	1280 209 49.60 14.65-0.4 3687 506 6013	4:32.52



7840	Distelberger, Dominik/AUT	10.79-0.7
762+0.5	1166 197 48.16 14.28-0.8 3969 476 5026	4:36.05
7689	Walter, Simon/SUI	11.20+0.9
702+0.4	1338 200 49.27 15.22-0.4 4319 486 5739	4:54.47
7612	Draudvila, Darius/LTU	10.95-0.7
694-0.4	1527 194 49.43 14.53 0.0 4573 456 5014	5:13.11
7532	Cain, Stephen/AUS	11.39-0.8
676-1.1	1298 197 51.20 15.05-0.8 4101 496 5785	4:42.40
7085	Prey, Matthias/GER	11.27-0.8
765+0.1	1434 185 50.69 14.81-0.4 4787 nh 5589	4:31.45
6958	Arnold, Jake/USA-Asics	11.23+0.9
630+0.7	1437 191 50.36 14.66 0.0 4417 496 5646	dnf
6952	Diaz, Yuniior/CUB	11.02-0.7
719+0.6	1387 197 47.53 dnf 4360 436 5545	4:39.71
dnf	Garcia, Yordani/CUB	10.86-0.7
695+1.2	1446 200 48.72 14.17 0.0 4352 nh	withdrew
dnf	Adjetny-Nelson, Jamie/CAN	10.84+0.4
726-2.7	1479 197 49.34 14.76-0.4 3f 446	withdrew
dnf	Schwartzl, Roland/AUT	11.38-0.8
722-0.3	1378 185 dnf 14.67-0.9 4541 516	withdrew
dnf	Dudas, Mihaeil/SRB	10.91+0.4
730+0.5	1369 197	withdrew
dnf	Rietveld, Pelle/NED	10.75+0.9
698-2.2	1420 182	withdrew
dnf	Coertzen, William/RSA	11.12+0.6
669+0.7		withdrew
dnf	Raja, Anders/EST	dnf
	27s,20f.	

SMITH WINS NACAC Champs



Kingston, JAM, May 27-28. Maurice Smith, 30, Auburn, AL, won the North

American-Central American and Caribbean (NACAC) decathlon title in his native Jamaica with a notable 8078 score turning back a 13 man field. The 2007 IAAF world championship silver medalist relied on consistency, for he had not a single career event best. But he never trailed after a significant shot

Maurice Smith (right) had never competed in a decathlon in his native land, Jamaica. He won the NACAC here with 8078 pts.



(16.88m/55-4¾). Damian Warner, a 22 year old Canadian with limited experience and only a runner-up at last year's Canadian nationals in Toronto (7449), posted a PR 7760 for the silver medal. Chris Helwick, 26, Winston Salem, NC grabbed the bronze with a solid 7609 score while winning the vault and 1500 meters.

Former NCAA champ (while at LSU), Claston Bernard vault no-heighted taking him out of medal contention.

American Chris Randolph was 4th and Joe Detmer suffered a slight hamstring pull in the 100 and withdrew. For Smith, the former Auburn star and SEC champ, who was 'encouraged' by home officials to compete in Kingston instead of starting, as he normally does in Götzis, won his 11th career meet. In a



Chris Helwick won the final event in 4:29 and collared the bronze medal in an affair that lacked an audience.

12 year career, at St. Catherine's, Central Arizona (JC) and Auburn, and as a post-collegian, he had never started a decathlon in his native land. The lack of meet pre-meet publicity resulted in a first.....even for decathlons. On the very first day there were exactly zero spectators. USA coach noted that "two young children did come by on day two, stayed for awhile and left, and there was one back hoe operator around...other than those...nobody." Given the heat Smith's 8078 score and the rest of the performances must be looked at in a more admiring light. The athletes used a sprint training track, not one set up for combined events...for example, lack of multiple pits for the jumps. Too bad. Webb concluded, "it was a grind to get through so next meet will appear like heaven. If you can get through this you can get through anything"

Results:

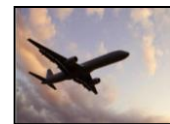
5/27-28 NACAC Champs, U of West



Indies, Kingston, JAM

8078	Smith, Maurice/JAM	10.94-1.8	716+2.2
1688 191	49.80 14.01+0.5	4761 460 5650	4:48.??
7760	Warner, Damian/Canada	10.68-1.8	743+1.9
1283 194	49.77 13.89+0.5	4525 440 5368	5:02.??
7609	Helwick, Chris/USA	11.49-2.0	708+1.4
1352 197	50.26 15.45+0.5	4067 470 5771	4:29.??
7358	Randolph, Chris/USA	11.64-2.0	704+2.5
1354 194	50.52 15.17+0.5	4342 420 5568	4:42.??
6647	Merrero, Steven/PUR	11.92-1.8	671+0.5
1334 176	51.72 17.59+0.5	4488 430 5575	5:08.??
6547	Arbour, Patrick/CAN	12.02-2.0	604+0.1
1348 179	53.82 15.63+0.5	4710 370 5883	5:10.??
6540	Sagoan Gonzales, Rodrigo Arm/MEX	11.27-2.0	596+1.1
1172 170	49.42 15.92+0.5	4149 400 4832	4:58.??
6539	Colon, Darwin/HON	11.21-1.8	652+0.8
1237 179	51.29 15.03+0.5	4120 370 3822	5:04.??
6367	Rivera Morales, Jorge Eduard/MEX	11.95-2.0	652+1.0
1179 203	52.08 15.89+0.5	3475 370 4472	5:09.??
4723	Ayala Hernandez, Rolando/El Salvador	11.89-2.0	633+1.8
930 nh	51.25 18.75+0.5	2344 340 3560	4:59.??
dnf:	Bernard, Claston/JAM	[11.22-1.8	679+0.4
1330 200	51.55 14.56+0.5	4067 nh	
withdrew],	Sanchez, Marcos/PUR	[11.53-1.8	5
99+0.9	1339	withdrew],	Detmer, Joe/USA
[withdrew],	13s,10f.	
[full details of 1500m not available on official result sheet??]			

A Travel Nightmare...



As way of disclaimer, the reader should know that I was **not** in Götzis this year. It's a long story but here is the short version.

On Wednesday evening my flight (United #396) from Wash, DC to Zurich was 2 hours out and over Atlantic when we were forced to return to nearest airport (Boston). The computer system and all backups had failed and the pilot flew the plane manually (at night) back to Boston. We were told upon Boston arrival that we would be put on another plane and flown immediately to Zurich. Unfortunately the "other" plane arrived several hours later and was unready for trip so all passengers were given vouchers for nearby hotels and cab rides (my hotel was 30 minutes away...an \$80 cab ride) and we

were returned to the airport the next day (Thursday) and told we would be taken to Zurich at 5 pm on another flight. After everyone boarded this flight we waited an hour and everyone was taken off this plane for it too had mechanical problems. We were told that, at the earliest the flight would try and leave was at 10 pm, which for me was much too late to make any driving connections in Zurich. My best guess is that I would not arrive in Götzi, perhaps by train, until Saturday morning/afternoon.

Frankly, after walking, sitting and standing in lines for the better part of 40 hours in airports I had had enough. Enough was enough! I purchased a ticket to Washington DC and returned home this morning (Friday) and followed the meet on its fine website and via emails from Hans van Kuijen, Rooney Magnusson, Renate Ohy, Trey Hardee and a few others. Thanks to all for your help.

I don't remember travel being this difficult. I, off course, missed the annual meeting in Götzi and seeing all of my friends. It is the first time in 24 years I was unable to get there. Next year.

Frank Zarnowski