

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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BORDEAUX THRILLER

Suarez a Winner at *DecaStar*



Hello Again.....The major news this week was the 30th *DecaStar* competition in Talence, France with it's implications on the seasonal IAAF Combined Events standings. We also produce a story about a newly discovered (and 107 year old!!) combined events world record. See below. And we remind readers that next week features the World Double Decathlon championships in Lynchburg, VA.

In the race for Bordeaux dough, the 30th *DecaStar* meeting in France's wine country confirmed the elite status Cuban Leonel Suarez and cleared the focus on the 2010 IAAF Combined Events Challenge competition. Just two weeks past his 23rd birthday, Suarez moved from 4th at the break to the overall lead with a 71.46m/234-5, then ran a protective 4:30 1500m and finished with a SB 8328 score. 126 points back was German Pascal Behrenbruch, 25, with European Champion and crowd favorite Romain Barras/FRA another 22 points in arrears.

The final scores belie how very close this meet was. Only ten points separated the top four contenders after 8 events, none of them named Suarez nor Barras. After the pole vault (won by Dutchman Eelco Santicolaas who started at 5.06m/16-7¼ after everyone else had finished and won the event at 5.26m/17-3) the bottleneck at the top of the leader board read:



Cuban Leonel Suarez, 23, won the 30th *DecaStar* meeting in Talence, France with an impressive 8328 late season effort.

1...Oleksiy Kasyanov/UKR	6751
2...Yordani Garcia/CUB	6747
3...Maurice Smith /JAM	6744
4...Pascal Behrenbruch/GER	6741

Kasyanov, who had led from the very first event (even if he did have a pair of long jump fouls before achieving a fair mark) faded with a meager 46.48m/152-6 toss while Suarez speared a seasonal best (his PR exceeds 77 meters) 71.46m234-5, and just

like that, the meet was over. See “Results” section below. Barras raced from 5th to 3rd in the final event where all of the interest was in



Ukrainian Oleksiy Kasyanov led for 8 events yet finished 7th overall.

final scores and IAAF CE scores. For example, back in the pack and largely unnoticed was Sinticolaas who needed a sub 4:28 clocking to surpass Jake Arnold on the “Challenge list” But the Euro runner-up could muster just 4:30.20 and the 2½ second gap likely cost him \$5000 (the difference between 3rd and 4th in the overall standings). At meet’s end the “Challenge” totals looked like this:

1..Romain Barras/FRA	25,063	8354+
2. Leonel Suarez/CUB	24,857	8285+
3. Jake Arnold/USA	24,627	8209
4. Eelco Sinticolaas/NED	24,613	8204+
5. Mikk Pahapill/EST	24,580	8193+
6. Yordani Garcia/CUB	24,510	8170
7. Aleksey Drozdov/RUS	24,234	8078
8. Hans van Alpen/BEL	24,091	8030+
9. Andres Raja/EST	24,043	8014+
10. Brent Newdick/NZL	23,853	7951+
... Smith, Maurice/JAM	16,343	needs
		8285 to move to 3 rd , 8178 for 6 th , 7749 for 8 th and any money

The only significant Challenge meeting remaining is next month’s Commonwealth Games in New Delhi where Jamaican Maurice Smith will be one of the favorites. He’ll need a 8285 score to move to

3rd, 8178 for 6th and 7749 for any dough. And modest score will make Belgium’s Hans van Alpen the real casualty since he is currently 8th in an 8 person payment scheme. The top 3 combined scores from predetermined Invitational and championship meetings are used to determine placings. IAAF CE Challenge Payment system:

1 st	\$ 30,000	US
2 nd	20,000	
3 rd	15,000	
4 th	10,000	
5 th	8,000	
6 th	7,000	
7 th	6,000	
8 th	5,000	



All-Around World Record Uncovered

Before there was “decathlon,” there was the “All-Around,” a one day, ten event contest that was formalized in America in 1884 and conducted as a national championship until the AAU discarded the event in 1979.



The ten events (with only 5 minutes rest between events) were: 100 yards, shot put, high jump, 880 yd walk, 16 lb hammer, pole vault, 120 yd hurdles, 56 lb weight, long jump and mile run. Scoring tables were developed in 1892. Athletes like Harry Gill, Martin Sheridan and Jim Thorpe held the All-Around record. In the more recent era Tom Pagani, Bob Richards and Bill Urban were all-around “world record holders.”

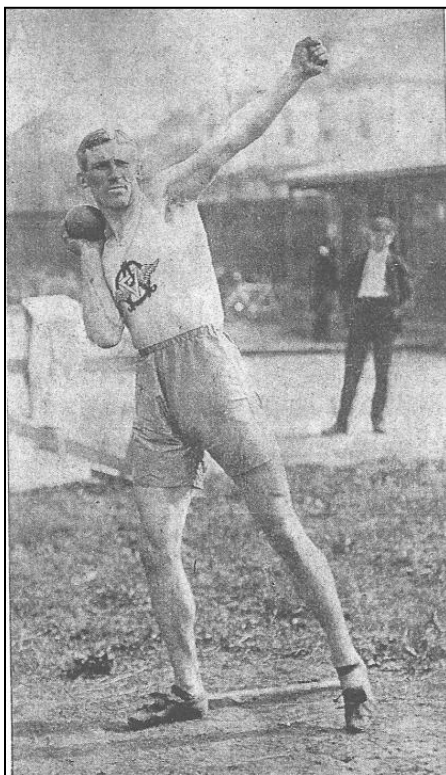
It was assumed that the event’s statistical record was complete until a request came last month to verify a 1903 (!) score by Adam Dunn, a Scottish born Buffalo, NY resident. I found the meet at the Library of Congress microfilm repository. The meet was held on September 12, 1903, the Buffalo

Civic Games, and reported by the *Buffalo Morning Express*. There may be many reasons why this performance went unnoticed or ignored for more than a century.

Regardless, here are Dunn's marks when the world all-around record was a fraction better than 6380 by Canada's Harry Gill.

100 yards	10 3/5	832 points
SP	40-4	680
HJ	5-3 3/4	600
880yd walk	3:49	767
Hammer	108-9	564
PV	9-9	616
120ydH	17 2/5	730
56lbwt	26-4	544
BJ	20-6 1/2	712
Mile	5:54 2/5	<u>517</u>
Total:		6562 points

Dunn's record would be surpassed in 1905 by Martin Sheridan.



“New” world record holder Adam Gunn, Buffalo Central YMCA

The request came because Dunn is being considered for election to the Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame this fall and a full bio and record of accomplishments was

warranted. Dunn, who emigrated to the US in 1893, was a 2x national AAU all-around champion (1901-02). He died suddenly in 1938 while on a visit to his native Scotland. He was buried in Scotland and, without family, was soon forgotten. Dunn's medals and trophies were donated to a local museum (Buffalo Historical Society). During his time Dunn was one of the very best and most versatile track and field athletes anywhere. He competed in 6 career all-arounds, won 4 and never finished worse than 3rd.

[For more information about the history of the All-Around see: *All-Around Men: Heroes of a Forgotten Sport*, by Frank Zarnowski, Scarecrow Press, Lanham, MD, 2005, and my self-published record book; *The Complete All-Around Record Book*, Frank Zarnowski, 2005, DECA Press, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. For info on the latter, I can be contacted at zarnowsk@msmary.edu.]

World Double Decathlon

Finally, the World Double Decathlon Championship will be contested at Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA, Fri-Sat, March 24-25.

DecaStar Results:



9/18-19 30th DecaStar, Talence, FRA

8328	Suarez, Leonel/CUB	11.08+2.4
713+4.2	1392 211 49.12 14.49-0.2 4578 466 7146	4:30.61
8202	Behrenbruch, Pascal/GER	11.04+2.4
718+0.2	1643 199 50.16 14.41-0.5 4634 476 6377	4:42.34
8180	Barras, Rolmain/FRA	11.06+2.4
717+2.8	1506 196 49.03 14.38-0.5 4175 486 6384	4:26.34
8174	Garcia, Yordani/CUB	10.89-0.1
705 0.0	1519 205 48.94 14.52-0.2 4396 486 6289	4:45.52
8157	Smith, Maurice/JAM	10.97-0.1
686+1.2	1567 193 49.26 14.31-0.5 5160 476 5880	4:37.95
8091	Van Alpen, Hans/BEL	11.14+1.3
732+1.1	1481 193 49.24 14.87-0.4 4517 456 6384	4:22.70
8032	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	10.72-0.1
745+0.5	1432 205 49.22 14.47-0.5 4481 456 4648	4:30.02
8018	Sintnicolaas, Eelco/NED	10.94-0.1
730+2.5	1275 193 49.12 14.52-0.2 3942 526 5848	4:30.20

7959 Drozdov, Aleksey/RUS 11.24+1.3
685+1.1 1627 205 51.59 15.67-0.4 4667 486 6388 4:40.53
7913 Dudas, Mihail/SRB 10.99-0.1
744+1.4 1336 199 48.57 15.35-0.4 4352 456 5818 4:31.81
7828 Newdick, Brent/NZL 11.03+2.4
721+3.6 1440 193 50.66 14.80-0.2 4448 476 5630 4:39.47
7688 Querin, Gael/FRA, 7287 Logel, Franck/FRA,
dnf: Raja, Andres/EST [11.09-0.1 709+1.7 1368
196 49.50 14.11-0.5 4312 nh]; Kranchanka,
Andrei/BLR [11.27+1.3 746+1.8 inj], Pahapill,
Mikk/EST [11.22+2.4], Dhouibi,
Hamdi/TUN [10.96+1.3 nm] 18s, 13f.