

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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USA LOSING STREAK NOW AT 6 Thorpe Cup Teams Now Winless Since 2009

Hello Again.....It depends upon ones point of view...on the side of the host nation at the 22nd Thorpe Cup in Filderstadt/Bernhausen this meet was a terrific affair and evidence that the German development program was not only well oiled and working, but in high gear. In spite of injuries to possible entrants Mathias Prey, Patrick Spinner and Arthur Abele, and not using NCAA champs Johannes Hock and Luca Wieland, and with young superstars Tim Nowak and Niklas Kaul waiting in the wings, Germany's Team Zehnkampf hardly needed them to dispose of Team USA in 2015.

In a pre-meet interview veteran German coach Claus Marek emphasized that the annual Thorpe Cup was integral to his development program. His view of this year's Thorpe Cup was clear and sunny.

From the American stand point this day was humiliating, a disaster. Yikes! And there is no pleasue in writing this. Seemingly with plenty of talent, Team USA dropped it 6th consecutive dual meet affair. USA continues to lead the series, begun in 1993, 13-9. Yet it is obvious that the German developmental program is miles ahead of its American counterpart. Consider, Team USA held the team lead (by a scant 2 points) only after the first event. The loosing margin was the 2nd highest in meet history, 3,476 points, almost 700 points per man.

Team Zehnkampf also used the Thorpe Cup competition to prep world champ entries Michael Schrader and Kai Kazmirek. Here's the story.



Why is this man smiling? Veteran German decathlon coach and development coordinator Claus Marek has fashioned a program to train and prepare decathletes and has now won six consecutive USA vs Germany matches.



**22nd Thorpe Cup
USA vs Germany Team Decathlon
Bernhausen, GER
August 8-9, 2015**

110m Hurdles:

Michael Schrader won the first hurdle race, in 14.39 to Kurtis Brondyke's 14.93. In the second race a determined Miller Moss outlegged Kai Kazmirek, 14.28 to 14.34 while Curtis Beach faded to 15.60. The 3rd race found Dolomon Ijah maintained his hot pace getting the nod over Patrick Scherfose, 14.41 to 14.48. Team USA won its third running event but still found itself down 671 points.

After Six: Knob 5062, Brug 5023, Stau 4993, Ijah 4988, Moss 4950

Team: Germany 24,867, USA 24,197 - 671

Discus:

Kuttis Brondyke won the event in the last round with a fine 45.57m/149-6 and Moss's 43.86 was a seasonal best. But Team Zehnkampf was universally solid netting 5 of the top 7 places to push their overwhelming lead to 1149 points. It was over.

Michael Schrader and Kai Kazmirek were both unimpressive with 42.31m/138-9 and 40.99m/134-5 marks. Rico Freimuth did not achieve a legal mark.

After Seven: Knob 5817, Brug 5761, Stau 5747, Moss 5693, Ijah 5659

Team: Germany 28,496, USA 27,347 -1149

Pole Vault:

As if an 1100 point deficit wasn't enough, a trio of no-heights here (Beach, Ijah, Modin) nailed the American coffin. Two others made a single height and only Mike Morgan (4.86m/15-11¼) and Miller Moss (4.66m/15-3½), both posting solid totals and keeping an eye on the '16 OT standard of 7900, posted substantial marks.

It must have been some sort of record, as Team USA made only eight of 34 vault attempts. Nothing seemed to bother the host club (making 27 heights vs 33 misses) as Jan-Felix Knobel won at 5.05m/16-7¼ to lock up the individual title.

Kazmirek cleared one bar (4.76m/15-7¼) while Michael Schrader cleared none.

After Eight: Knob 6746, Brug 6629, Stau 6615, Moss 6500,

Team: Germany 32,837, USA 29,515 -3,322 Whew!

Javelin

Knobel won the event on his first toss (62.32m/204-6). Ijah was runner-up with a 3rd round 58.89m/193-3 spear. Weak marks by Moss and Morgan spoiled solid scores.

The losing differential reached its peak at this point, 3,494 points or nearly 700 points/man.

After Nine: Knob 7419, Stau7283, Brug 7261, Sche 7071, Moss 7013.

Team: Germany 36,063, USA 32,569 -3,494

1500 Meters

For the first time in meet history the winning team needn't have run the final event...for the host nation had scored more points after nine events than Team USA did

after 10! Curtis Beach did not run & Thomas FitzSimons, who experienced a sub-par meet, won the 1500m preserving the streak as Team USA athletes won every running event. Too little too late. Curtis Beach did not run.

After Ten: Knob 8049, Brug 8009, Stau 7907, Sche 7693, Moss 7573.

Team: Germany 39,066, USA 35,590, -3,476

Results:



8/8-9 22nd Thorpe Cup (USA vs Germany), Bernhausen, GER

8045	Knobel, Jan Felix/GER	11.07+0.2	737+0.9
	1568 199 50.28 14.70+1.4 4443 506 6232 5:05.93		
8009	Brugger, Mathias/GER	11.02+1.3	721+0.9
	1486 196 48.91 14.68+1.4 4359 486 5293 4:29.49		
7907	StauB, Rene/GER	11.09+0.2	719-0.5
	1489 208 50.02 15.26-0.3 4440 486 5535 4:49.17		
7693	Scherfose, Patrick/GER	11.03+0.2	722+0.1
	1438 190 51.03 14.48+0.5 4219 496 5059 4:49.37		
7573	Moss, Miller/USA-unat	10.99+0.9	697+0.1
	1331 196 48.44 14.28+1.4 4386 466 4487 4:59.90		
7412	Merten, Nils/GER	10.86+1.3	705+0.5
	1478 184 49.99 14.65+0.5 4335 456 4782 5:13.86		
7323	Morgan, Mike/USA-Buffalo'16	11.10+0.2	730-0.1
	1123 202 50.10 14.84+0.5 3731 486 3943 4:48.71		
7318	Beckers, Nico/GER	10.95+0.9	739+0.8
	1387 196 49.59 15.20-0.3 3897 396 4237 4:42.38		
7221	FitzSimons, Thomas/USA-SBTC	11.44+0.2	668+0.2
	1187 196 50.58 15.43-0.3 3869 416 5584 5:23.14		
6926	Ijah, Solomon/USA-E Mich'16	10.75+1.0	706+0.9
	1601 178 49.04 14.41+0.5 4031 nh 5889 5:02.35		
6547	Brondyke, Kurtis/USA-TOG	11.15+1.3	nm
	1481 187 50.52 14.93-0.3 4557 416 5817 5:10.59		
6420	Modin, Mitch/USA-Oregon'17	11.03+0.2	687 0.0
	1195 202 49.85 15.08+0.5 3705 nh 5048 5:11.51		
dnf	Beach, Curtis/USA-Nike	10.92+0.9	734 0.0
	1247 184 48.17 15.60+1.4 3289 nm nm dns		
dnf:	Schreiner, Aron/GER	10.84+0.9	708 0.0
	1381 184 dns		

Team Scores:

USA	35,590	[ave=7118]
Germany	39,066	[ave=7813]

An now its on to Beijing and the IAAF World Champs.

