

PAPPAS WINS DECATHLON GOLD; MCKELVY WINS BRONZE IN 100H

Tom Pappas took on the title of “world’s greatest athlete,” traditionally given to the best decathlete in the world, by winning the decathlon Wednesday night at the 2003 World Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

The 2003 World Indoor champion and a three-time U.S. champ, Pappas (Knoxville, Tenn.) scored 8,750 points in the two-day, 10-event contest at the Stade de France to defeat defending world champion and world record holder Roman Sebrle of the Czech Republic, who was second with 8,634 points. Dmitry Karpov of Kazakhstan finished third with 8,374.

Pappas led Sebrle by 179 points entering the final event of the decathlon, the 1,500 meters. Pappas ran conservatively early on in the race, gradually passing runners and finishing 11th in 4 minutes, 44.31 seconds for 653 points. Seberle finished ahead of Pappas in seventh (4:34.45/716 pts), but it wasn’t enough for the Czech to overtake the American.

With the win, Pappas becomes the only American other than legendary Dan O’Brien to win World Championships gold. The former world record holder and 1996 Olympic gold medalist, O’Brien won gold in 1991, ’93 and ’95. Chris Huffins won bronze in 1999.

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Tom Pappas

Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

MILES, MACK CARRY U.S. HOPES IN MEN’S VAULT

Derek Miles (Jonesboro, Ark.) and Tim Mack (Knoxville, Tenn.) will enter Thursday’s men’s pole vault final with the opportunity to win medals in world championship competition for the first time in their careers.

The 2003 USA Indoor champion and runner-up in June at the USA Outdoor Championships, Miles placed fifth at the 2003 World Indoor Championships and owns a career best clearance of 5.82 meters/19-1. A decathlete as a collegian at the University of South Dakota, Miles is trained by National Track and Field Hall of Famer Earl Bell.

Miles, who enjoys paragliding in his spare time, is looking to soar to a medal

in Paris after a solid performance in Wednesday’s qualifying, where he cleared 5.70m/18-8.25. “I was slow to get going, but it all came together in the end,” he said. “I was a little tentative and a little cautious in the very beginning, but after I got on the right poles things fell into place. It felt good, and I feel I could’ve jumped much higher.”

Tim Mack is looking to add to his international reputation this week in Paris following his surprise gold medal winning performance at the 2001 Goodwill Games, where he cleared 5.80m/19-0.25. His success continued in 2002 with a win at the



Derek Miles

Randy Osga Photo

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Pappas was in second place behind Dmitry Karpov of Kazakhstan entering day 2. He began the day in event 6 with a time of 13.99 seconds (976 points) in the 110m hurdles, then threw 46.94m/154-0 in the discus (46.94).

It was in the eighth event, the pole vault, that Pappas made his biggest gains, vaulting 5.10m/16-8.75 (941) to take over first, followed by Seberle. In the ninth event, the javelin, Sebrle gained just 59 points on Pappas, with Pappas throwing a near-personal best 65.90m/216-2 for 827 points while Sebrle threw 69.69m/228-11 for 886 points. It gave Pappas the cushion he needed for the 1,500m, where Sebrle typically finishes roughly 10 seconds ahead of Pappas.

Paul Terek (Livonia, Mich.), endured disappointment in the decathlon when he was disqualified in the 110m hurdles for allegedly knocking down hurdles intentionally. Team USA multi-events coach Ed Miller noted that Terek's hurdling style and relative inflexibility in his legs resulted in the felled hurdles. USATF appealed the judge's decision, but the appeal was denied. He continued the competition, throwing 45.72m/150-0 in the discus (782), clearing 5.30m/17-4.5 in the vault (1004), throwing a personal best 61.14m/200-7 in the javelin (755), and running 4:30.77 in the 1,500 meters (740). He finished with a nine-event total of 7,503 points.

Miesha McKelvy (San Diego, Calif.), a three-time U.S. runner-up and the 1999 Pan Am Games champion, won her first World Championships medal Wednesday with a bronze in the women's 100-meter hurdles. McKelvy rallied in the second half of the race to move into third in 12.67 seconds in a race won by Perdita Felicien of Canada in a national record 12.53 seconds. Brigitte Foster of Jamaica was second in 12.57, and American Jenny Adams placed sixth in 12.77.

In the day's other Team USA final event, Curt Clausen (Chula Vista, Calif.) was disqualified from the men's 50 km race walk before the 15 km mark.



Miesha McKelvy

Kelli White (Union City, Calif.) and Torri Edwards (Los Angeles, Calif.) once again will meet in a women's sprint final. On Wednesday night the duo ran their way into Thursday's 200-meter final. White did so by winning the first semi in 22.50 and Edwards, who as in the 200 showed an excellent start and early-race speed, placed third in the second section in 22.44.

The United States also will have two athletes in the final of the men's long jump as Walter Davis (Baton Rouge, La.) was third in qualifying with a mark of

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Tom Surber's La Phrase Francaise du jour

Où peux-je obtenir un
cheeseburger ou une pizza?

*Where can I get a cheeseburger
or pizza?*

FROM THE MIXED ZONE – TEAM USA QUOTES

Men's decathlon final

Tom Pappas: I knew after the third lap at 1200 meters I had it won. I knew what I needed to do in the javelin and I hadn't thrown it well at all the last few years. To hit a big throw like that on my first attempt was kind of refreshing because it took some pressure off my 1,500, so I didn't have to run so fast in that race. I knew that if I was ever going to win a major title like this I was going to have to improve my javelin and 1500, and I'm thankful that I was able to do that today.

Paul Terek: I had a great time and I learned a lot. Competing with all these guys is great and you learn so much competing with them. It just makes you compete at a different level. Sometimes things just don't go your way, but you have to deal with it and move on.

Women's 100m hurdles final

Miesha McKelvy: I hit a hurdle and I came in third. I'm not sure which one it was, but it was close to the end of the race. I'm finished. I get to go to Disney World tomorrow and I get to eat ice cream! Y'all don't understand, I get to go home. That's like the gold medal for me.

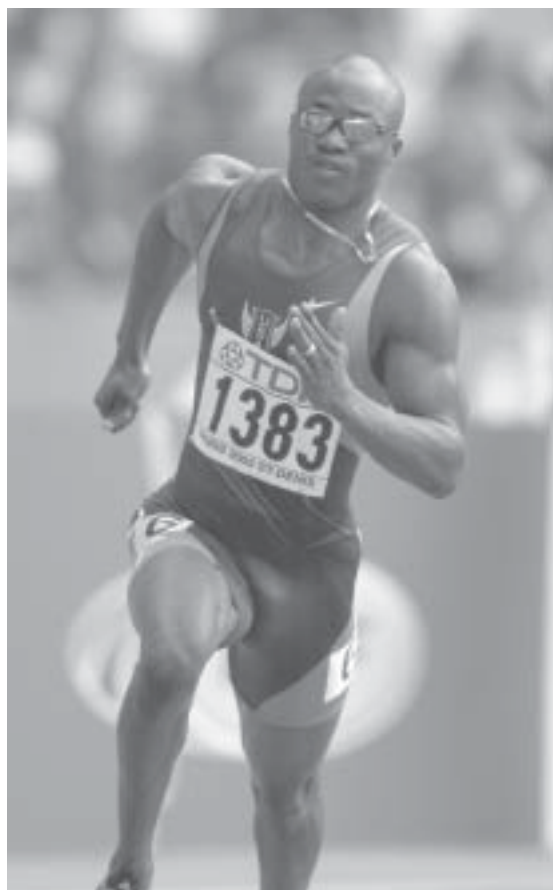
Women's 200m semifinals

Kelli White: I'm tired. I wish this was earlier in the day. Sitting around all day is pretty tough. I do like only having one race in a day, though. I got to eat twice today, lunch and dinner.

Men's 200m semifinals

Darvis Patton: I'm trying to take it through round by round while expending only as much energy as necessary each round.

J.J. Johnson: It's been a long day and I'm glad it's over. Tomorrow I'm going to get out of the blocks the best way I can. I'm not a fast starter, so I'm not going to change my race



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

John Capel



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

Kristin Heaston

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John Capel: The focus is on all of us now, not just one person. We're going out there to get all three of those medals. That's the plan.

Men's long jump qualifying:

Dwight Phillips: I just gutted it out and made it through to the next round. It's a nice runway, and I'm happy with it.

Walter Davis: I got through the qualifying round in my first jump and now it's time to go to the finals and do what I do.

Men's 400m hurdles semifinals

Joey Woody: I got out a little bit slower than I did last time, but I have a lot of strength in the last 100 meters and I needed it. I feel pretty good. My legs are a little tired, but that's what that extra day of rest is for.

Eric Thomas: I didn't feel good at all. I couldn't push the track back.

Women's 1,500m qualifying

Regina Jacobs: I'm very pleased with the race. It was the first race and I'm always nervous in the first round. I'm just glad it's over.

Women's Shot Put Qualifying

Kristin Heaston: I'm really excited for having this experience. I don't think it was that bad. I broke my foot six weeks ago, but the U.S. allowed me to come because I definitely needed the experience and I know I can compete with these girls.

Men's 50 km Race Walk

Curt Clausen: I felt strong and relaxed, but my technique just wasn't there today. I got two DQ cards in the first 40 minutes and it was very tough after that. My fitness level was good, but it just wasn't there for me today.



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

Walter Davis



WEDNESDAY TEAM USA EVENT PREVIEWS

FINALS

Men's pole vault

6:30 p.m.

U.S. entrants: Derek Miles (Jonesboro, Ark.), Tim Mack (Knoxville, Tenn.)

THE SCOOP: Mack was ninth in 2001, shortly before winning the Goodwill Games gold medal. Each man has won a U.S. indoor title, and each has shown consistency as well as the ability to turn in big heights. Whether the U.S. will win a medal is a crapshoot in one of the most unpredictable races in track and field, but a medal would not be a surprise.

Women's hammer throw

8:45 p.m.

U.S. entrants: Melissa Price (Lincoln, Neb.), Anna Mahon (Orange, Conn.)

THE SCOOP: Mahon and Price qualified seventh and 10th, respectively, in Tuesday's qualifying round.

They will need to improve to get a medal, and they will work together to try to make that happen.



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

Anna Mahon

Women's 200m final

9:45

U.S. entrants: Kelli White (Union City, Calif.), Torri Edwards (Los Angeles, Calif.)

THE SCOOP: White and Edwards have been thriving off of their 1-2 finish in the women's 100 meters at the same time that they have been fighting off the tiring effects of four rounds of the shorter sprint. They must hold on for one more race as they both battle for gold.

Women's 400m hurdles final

10 p.m.

U.S. entrant: Sandra Glover (Sugar Land, Texas)

THE SCOOP: A four-time U.S. champion, Glover is an experienced World Championships and international competitor. She has placed fifth at the last two World championships and will try to win her first medal in Paris. Glover ran a season-best time of 53.59 on Monday's semifinal and should be ready to run fast.

QUALIFYING ROUNDS

Women's javelin throw

5 p.m.

U.S. entrant: Kim Kreiner (Baton Rouge, La.)

THE SCOOP: The American record holder, Kreiner is a three-time U.S. runner-up who is making her first appearance at the World Outdoor Championships.



Kim Kreiner

Men's 5,000 meters

6:45 p.m.

U.S. entrant: Jorge Torres (Boulder, Colo.)

THE SCOOP: An NCAA champion, Torres celebrated his 23rd birthday on August 23. Earning a spot in the final would be a great gift for Torres, who owns a personal best of 13:24.56 and was third at the USA Outdoor Championships.



Victor Sailer/Photour

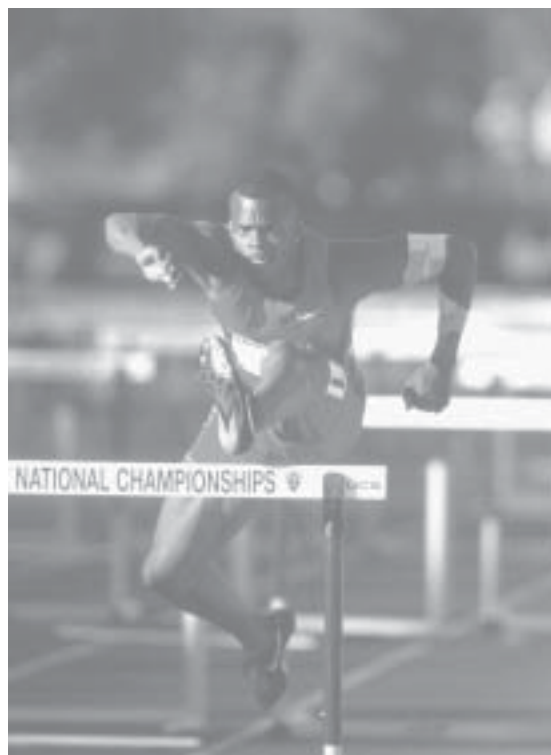
Jorge Torres

Men's 110m hurdles

7:35 p.m.

U.S. entrants: Allen Johnson (Irmo, S.C.), Terrence Trammell (Columbia, S.C.), Larry Wade (Canoga Park, Calif.), Chris Phillips (Maumelle, Ark.)

THE SCOOP: Traditionally one of the strongest events in the Team USA arsenal, the men's 110m hurdles promises more success in 2003. Johnson, a three-time world champion, is going for a record fourth world title in Paris. His longtime nemesis, Anier Garcia of Cuba, is not competing, solidifying Johnson's status as favorite. Trammell is the 2000 Olympic silver medalist and was a close second to Johnson at the USA Outdoor Championships. Wade is the 1998 NCAA indoor and outdoor championships. Like Phillips, Wade is making his first appearance at the World Championships.



Victah Saller/Photorum

Larry Wade

Women's long jump

7:45 p.m.

U.S. entrant: Grace Upshaw (Redwood City, Calif.)

THE SCOOP:

The 2003 USA champion, Upshaw is having the best season of her career this year. She has jumped a personal-best of 6.74m/22-1.50m in Cork, Ireland, and also defeated Russia's Tatyana Kotova, the 2001 World Outdoor silver medalist and 2003



Victah Saller/Photorum

Grace Upshaw

World Indoor gold medalist, at the Norwich Union Challenge with a wind-aided jump of 6.99 meters/22 feet, 11.25 inches (wind +4.9 meters per second).

Men's 800 meters 1st round

8:35 p.m.

U.S. entrants: David Krummenacker (Tucson, Ariz.), Khadevis Robinson (Santa Monica, Calif.), Sam Burley (Philadelphia, Pa.)

THE SCOOP: Krummenacker is the 2003 World Indoor gold medalist, 1999 USA champion Robinson, and 2003 NCAA champion Burley try to make history as Team USA has never won higher than a bronze medal at World Outdoors. Krummenacker was seventh in the 800m semis at the 2001 Worlds and 7th

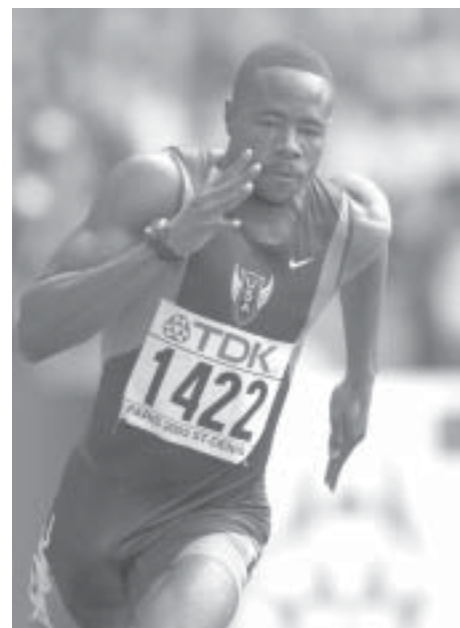
in the 1,500m semis in 1999. Although he had a hamstring injury in June, Krummenacker appears to be recovered and is a contender. Robinson was fifth in his first-round Worlds heat in 1999 as well as 2001. Burley makes his first Worlds appearance, having placed sixth at the USA Outdoor championships but possessing the IAAF "A" standard.

Men's 200m semifinals

9:25 p.m.

U.S. entrants: Darvis Patton (Fort Worth, Texas), John Capel (Gainesville, Fla.), J.J. Johnson (Garland, Texas)

THE SCOOP: Patton and Capel looked especially strong in Wednesday's first two rounds, and Johnson is a very dangerous runner. Look for at least two Americans to move into Friday's final.



Kitby Leer/The Sporting Image

Darvis Patton

USA Indoor Championships (5.72m/18-9.25) and a runner-up placing at USA Outdoors. He ended the 2002 season ranked #5 in the world (#2 U.S.) and earlier this year Mack placed third at the USA indoor and outdoor championships.

Mack's confidence in Paris was boosted by his inconsistent performance in the qualifying round (5.70m/18-8.25), where he advanced to the final. "All day none of my jumps were the same and that's why I feel so good about making it to the final," said Mack. "I know what I have to do to adjust and it should be a lot better on Thursday. It's pretty simple what I have to do. I have to give myself room to run because I'm running better than normal this time of year and I just have to adjust to it."

Since the inaugural World Outdoor Championships in 1983, the U.S. men's pole vault tally has consisted of just two bronze medals (Dean Starkey, 1997 – Nick Hysong, 2001). Following their impressive qualifying performances on Tuesday, Miles and Mack will attempt to add to that medal total Thursday in Paris.



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

Tim Mack

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8.14m/26-8.5 and 2003 World Indoor champion Dwight Phillips had the fourth-best mark at 8.12m/26-7.75. 2001 World Championships silver medalist and new father Savante Stringfellow (Ridgeland, Miss.) tied for 19th in qualifying with a jump of 7.83m/25-8.25.

Joey Woody (Cedar Falls, Iowa) used a strong charge in the final 100 meters to move on to the final of the men's 400-meter hurdles. Woody placed second in the first semi with a season-best time of 48.24. U.S. Champion Eric Thomas (Houston, Texas) was fourth in the third semifinal at 49.00 and did not advance.

The first two qualifying rounds of the men's 200 meters went off with nary a hitch as all three athletes advanced to Thursday's semifinals. In the first round, Darvis Patton (Fort Worth, Texas) won his heat on 20.27, John Capel (Gainesville, Fla.) was second in his heat in 20.59, and J.J. Johnson (Garland, Texas) had a third-place finish 20.56. The second round went even better, with Patton (20.40) and Capel (20.30) both winning their heats, with Johnson second in his race in 20.22 to advance.

Kristin Heaston (Palo Alto, Calif.) was 22nd in qualifying in the women's shot put (16.70m/54-9.5) and did not advance.

For Team USA quotes and complete results from the 2003 World Outdoor Championships, visit www.usatf.org.



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

Regina Jacobs

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ATHLETES OF THE DAY



Kirby Lee/The Sporting Image

TOM PAPPAS



MIESHA MCKELVY



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**TEAM USA MEDIA CENTER
4TH FLOOR,
STADE DE FRANCE
PH: 01 55 93 62 03**

Each day of the 2003 World Outdoor Championships a men's and women's Xerox Athlete of the Day will be chosen and will be featured in Team USA's daily newsletter, *Xerox News of the Worlds*.

On the final day of the event, a Xerox Men's and Women's Athlete of the Meet will be announced and the winners will receive a Xerox WorkCentre M15 copier-printer.

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