

Schippers Star Shines - 2 UK records and a Silver

Women's 200m

Schippers shape surprises Jamaican

Dafne Schippers went one better than the 100m with an astonishing run. She was marginally the favourite after easing through qualifying and her 100m silver but nobody anticipated the European champion running so fast.

Only fourth halfway up the straight she was much the strongest finisher and she caught Elaine Thompson near the line.

Her 21.67 broke the 21.71 European record and put her third all time with the fourth fastest run in history.

Her previous best was 22.03. She said: "I hoped for the gold and for a time under 22 and I got both. I can't believe it. What a race. What a tournament. My start was not so good but I stayed relaxed on the curve and saw the Jamaican just ahead and just tried to stay relaxed and that's why I won."

Thompson went fifth all-time with her 21.66. Her previous best was 22.10.

It was also close for third. For much of the race Candyce McGrone was in a medal position but seemed to lose momentum near the line and the 2011 champion Veronica Campbell-Brown caught her late. It was the double Olympic champion's fourth WC 200m medal (plus three at 100m) and came after she only qualified as a fastest loser in 22.47, three metres down on Dina Asher-Smith.

After the heats and semis, expectations were high for the final for the Briton and though ultimately a metre back from bronze, she ran superbly in her first senior final though unfortunately a few others improved more. She finished strongly and was closing on those ahead bar Schippers and the result was a sensational British record of 22.07 - it made her clearly the world's fastest ever teenager with so much more to come. Her time would have won nine of the previous finals.

She said: "I am absolutely over the moon. I've run three PBs, and ended in 22.07 which is a British record so I'm a really, really happy girl. To be in a race where two of them are running 21.6. I was running and I remember thinking that 'I'm already trying my best, but they're already gone - so what on earth is the time going to be and VCB ran sub-22 from lane two. I'm not disappointed - at the end of the day as I said before times are great, but at a championships it doesn't really matter because you come here for the placings. I'd have loved to have got a medal but being in that calibre of race, and seeing Dafne (Schippers) run 21.63 I'm really not disappointed."

GOLD: Dafne Schippers (NED) 21.63

SILVER: Elaine Thompson (JAM) 21.66

BRONZE: Veronica Campbell-Brown (JAM) 21.97

Women's Long Jump

Matching Tianna fits perfectly

While the women's hurdles was modest, the long jump was like the 200m, quite extraordinary. Britain had more than two finalists for the first time and ended up with two in the top five.

In the first round, Katarina Johnson-Thompson was the pick of the Brits as she jumped a safe 6.63m as her team-mates Shara Proctor and Lorraine Ugen jumped big fouls. Unfortunately KJT had her familiar Beijing radar problems with the board and couldn't improve with a 6.63m third jump seeing her finish just 11th.

The first round was led by Ivana Spanovic's Serbian record 7.01m but Ugen went into second with a fine 6.85m to open the second round and then dropped to third behind Christabel Netthey's 6.95m. Later in the round Tianna Bartoletta (6.95m) and Proctor (6.87m) went past Ugen and she couldn't move out of fifth finishing with three no jumps. Proctor though was in the form of her life. She jumped a superb British record 7.07m and she backed that up with a 7.01m. Meanwhile Spanovic and Bartoletta had good jumps in the fifth round (6.98m and 6.94m) to stay 2nd and 3rd.

With just two jumps capable of wrestling the gold from her the 2005 world champion Bartoletta used her 10.85 100m speed and sailed out to 7.14m and go into first. Spanovic finished with another 7.01m and Proctor a foul. It was a superb effort from Proctor who had finished sixth in her previous two WC finals and ninth in the Olympics.

GOLD: Tianna Bartoletta (USA) 7.14m

SILVER: Shara Proctor (GBR) 7.07m

BRONZE: Ivana Spanovic (SER) 7.01m

Women's 20km walk

Chinese two Liu and Lu too good to lose

Liu Hong won China's first gold medal just beating Lu Xiuzhi to lead home a Chinese 1-2. The world 20km race walk record-holder clocked 1:27:45 to take the title with Lu recording the same time for silver, while Ukraine's Lyudmyla Olyanovska was a clear third.

The Chinese pair led through 22:24 with Czech Republic's world junior champion Anezka Drahotova in third two seconds back.

Liu and Lu had built up a 26-second lead at the halfway point and by 15km they were still clearly ahead, with a 21-second advantage, but Olyanovska was closing the gap.

Liu edged ahead in the final metres win her first gold but fourth successive medal,

GOLD: Hong Liu (CHN) 1:27:45

SILVER: Xiuzhi Lu (CHN) 1:27:45

BRONZE: Lyudmila Olyanovskaya (LTU) 1:28:13

Women's 100m hurdles

Serener Williams stays cool as others falter

For 80 metres Tiffany Porter was on her way to gold. She had a slight lead at the eighth but seemed to slightly catch the ninth and began to lose balance and momentum on the ninth and she was out of her lane and off balance as she went through the line and fell heavily to the track. None of the three medallists were ranked in the top 10 prior to the event and all set PBs as the so called stars saw stars.

World Student games champion Danielle Williams who went into Beijing with a 12.69 PB won in 12.57 for one of the slowest ever winning times.

European 3rd placer Cindy Roleder improved from 12.80 to 12.59 and Alina Talay, who only got through as a fastest loser and was just fifth in Zurich, set a Belarus record of 12.66. 12.26 performer Brianna Rollins was fourth, Porter 5th in 12.68 and world leader Sharika Nelvis, who has run 12.34, last in 13.06.

GOLD: Danielle Williams (JAM) 12.57

SILVER: Cindy Roleder (GER) 12.59

BRONZE: Alina Talay (BLR) 12.66

Men's 110m hurdles

Sergey surges to hurdles win

Russia have had a dire championships so far with drug allegations outnumbering any good performances. But in a big surprise, double European champion Sergey Shubenkov won in a national record 12.98 to beat the bigger names.

The winner's mother Natalya Shubenkova ranks 11th all time in the heptathlon with 6859 points and was fourth in the Olympics.

He said: "I don't remember anything. I heard the starting gun then I opened my eyes and it was finished and when I crossed the line, I would wake up. My bronze in Moscow was the first Russian medal but I was lucky with 13.24."

12.97 man Omer McLeod was ahead at halfway but faded after hitting a hurdle and Shubenkov had a great second half to win clearly with Hansle Parchment coming through to go better than his surprise bronze in London.

Close behind in third was world record holder Aries Merritt, who has a major kidney operation ahead in the next few days.

There was a big gap to fourth with Pascal Martinot-Lagarde being the first of three Frenchmen. Defending champion David Oliver disappointed and was seventh in 13.34.

GOLD: Sergey Shubenkov (RUS) 12.98

SILVER: Hansle Parchment (JAM) 13.03

BRONZE: Aries Merritt (USA) 13.04

Men's HJ qualifying

Zhang goes bang as Rob Low

Very hard qualification at 2.31m – previously 2.28m was the best height never to qualify – saw just nine do it automatically with Zhang Guowei and Derek Drouin being the only ones with perfect records. For the first time ever, some jumpers cleared 2.29m and didn't make the final.

It's not been a great championships for British high jumpers, except for those competing in the heptathlon as Olympic bronze medallist Robbie Grabarz could only clear 2.26 for =18th place.

Women's Javelin qualifying

Hussong remains the same. Li lies second

athletes qualified automatically with Germany's Eight Christine Hussong's 65.92 and Lingwei Li's 65.07m heading qualifiers, with both PBs. World record holder Barbora Spotakova was third best on 65.02m.

Goldie Sayers was only 26th best with 58.28m.

Women's Hurdles semi finals

Cool Porter on tune for final

Tiffany Porter easily won her semi in 12.62 to be third fastest overall. Her sister Cindi Ofili was a long way down on her best form and was sixth in her semi in 12.91. Former Olympic champion Dawn Harper Nelson had a heavy fall. It didn't go well in heat two for the Americans as Kenfra Harrison was disqualified but defending champion Brianna Rollins won heat 3 in 12.71. Danielle Williams was fastest in a temporary PB 12.58. 12.86 made the final.

Placing Table

- 1 USA 172
- 2 KEN 108
- 3 JAM 100; 4 GER 73
- 5 GBR 65; 6 CHN 64; 6 POL 47
- 8 ETH 39; 9 CAN 33; 10 FRA 32
- 11 RUS 31; 12 CUB

Medal table

- 1 KEN 6 3 2; 2 USA 4 4 6; 3 JAM 4 2 3; 4 GBR 3 1 0; 5 POL 2 1 3; 6 CUB 2 1 0; 7 CHN 1 4 1; 8 GER 1 3 2; 9 ETH 1 2 0; 10 CAN 1 1 2; 11 NED 1 1 1; 12 RUS 1 1 0; 13 RSA 1 0 1; 14 COL/ERI/ESP/CZE 1 0 0

Decathlon Day 1

Eaton up the deficit

Ashton Eaton got off to the best possible start in his title defence when he won the 100m in 10.23 to beat the World Championship decathlon best. Damian Warner also bettered it with a 10.31 clocking. Rico Freimuth was third at this stage with 10.51.

Eaton went further clear in the long jump with a 7.88m leap and after two events led on 2070 from Warner's 1992 (7.65m). Brazil's Felipe Dos Santos went third with a 7.54m jump.

Eaton threw 14.52m in the shot and jumped 2.01m in the high jump to maintain his lead. The real notable effort came in the final event.

If Eaton had been superb in the 100m, he was absolutely fantastic in the 400m. He took half a second off his PB with 45.00 and smashed the world decathlon record. His time wouldn't have come last in the individual 400m final.

Overnight he led on possible world record schedule with 4703 points with Damian Warner, who finished with 47.30 second on 4530. Rico Freimuth recovered from a poor high jump to be third on 4406, just ahead of team-mates Kaz Kazmirek on 4401 and Michael Schrader 4355.

Men's 1500 qualifying

Manangoi overboard as right Charlie

Chris O'Hare entered the straight in second place but his legs gave way in the last 30 metres and he just missed qualifying by 0.08 of second with 3:44.36, despite a 52 last lap.

Charlie Grice ran a 53 last lap in a much faster race and only just missed his PB with a qualifying fourth place in 3:35.58.

Elijah Manangoi was fastest with 3:35.00.

Asbel Kiprop won the other slower semi final

Quiz Questions

- 1 Who is the fastest ever 8th in WC W400?
- 2 What 3 men have TJ full set of medals?
- 3 Which nation won both golds in a throw?
- 4 Who ran the fastest ever WC W200 semi?
- 5 Which 4 Brits topped the world 5000m rankings between 1980 and 2005?

Today's Timetable

- 07.30 Men's 50km walk
- 09.00 Decathlon 110H
- 10.05 Decathlon Discus
- 10.15 Women's 4x400m heats
GBR ht 2 v FRA, USA, UKR
- 10.40 Men's 4x400m heats
GBR ht 1 v BEL,RUS, JPN, BAH, FRA, POL
- 12.00 Women's 4x100
GBR ht 1 v NGR, JAM, RUS, CAN, POL
- 12.20 Men's 4x100.
GBR ht 1 v UKR, BRA, BAH, JPN, USA
- 13.15 Decathlon PV
- 17.35 Masters (W50) 400m – 2 Brits
- 17.50 Masters (W50) 800m – GB's Heath favourite
- 18.05 WLJ ceremony
- 18.20 Decathlon JT
- 18.30 Women's HJ
- 19.15 Men's 800
- 19.30 Men's 5000
- 19.50 Men's DT
- 20.10 Decathlon 1500
- 20.45 Women's 4x100
- 21.10 Men's 4x100
- 21.15 5000m Men ceremony

Additional quotes:

Williams said "Nobody knew who I was and I came here just to make the final. I had no idea I won."

Proctor said: "This is my fifth world championships and I thought I need to do something. I am excited, relieved, happy and came away with a silver. I had a rough year and this time last year I was on crutches so I feel like a winner right now. I don't care about the colour."

Porter said: "I'm fine, it was a tough fall but I am okay. I'm going to have to go back and look at the race. I think I was in a good position, I but I just didn't really execute my last couple of hurdles and that's what happens. I will be back stronger next year.

BEIJING TOUR NOTES

On yesterday's Beijing Tour it was clear why **TIAN'ANMEN SQUARE** has been closed for almost a week as the impressive floral displays include a recreation of the Great Wall are on a scale that the Chelsea Flower Show would find hard to match. If you have not yet visited the Square yet it is worth the effort.

After so much anticipation here we are with just two days to go until this championships ends – it barely seems possible that it was two weeks ago that a good many of us were packing and making preparations to travel here in preparation for the event or pre-event tours. With so many well informed fans in our group you will be making your own judgements on various aspects of this event but to date the competition has been exceptional. We hope that our daily newsletter and the detailed reporting of **Steven Smythe of Athletics Weekly** has managed to convey the quality of what we have been seeing with insights and information that is hopefully adding to your enjoyment. Steve is far too modest to seek plaudits but we at T&FT are delighted that we continue to be able to deliver his expert reporting... along with his puns!

For the many early departures on Mon 31 August the breakfast arrangements are that for the clients departing hotels pre-6.00 am you will be able to collect breakfast boxes. For those departing from 6.00 am onwards we have agreed with both hotels that each of their the breakfast rooms will be open from 6.00 am - as many of you have been asking about this we can confirm this now. Further check-out information to follow.

PREDICTION CONTEST

After seven days of competition and 32 finals Allan McLaren is ahead on 18 with Paul King, Alex Jelcic and Nikki Holden on 17 – nobody predicted the 100m H.