

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 100 Metres

20:25

Golden League Event



2008 World Best: 9.69 Usain Bolt JAM Beijing 16 Aug 08  
9.68w Tyson Gay USA Eugene 29 Jun 08

Bolt & Powell each requested not to be in adjacent lanes  
It's 2 - 1 to Bolt in their three meetings, all at 100m this year (Bolt won at Jamaican Champs & Beijing, Powell won in Stockholm)

		Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
1,	<b>FORSYTHE Mario</b> JAM 200 pb; 20.84 -06 (20.91 -08). 3 Jamaican 100 2006 In 2008: 2 Kingston 100 'C' (Mar 22); 3 Kingston 200 (Apr 12); 2 Kingston 100 'B' (May 3); 7sf Jamaican 100; 5 Athens 100 'B'; 3 Stockholm 100 'C'; 2 Dublin 100; 2 Karlstad 100 (3 200); 3 Lappeenranta 100; 1 Zurich Golden League 100 'C'; 5 Lausanne 100 'B'	22y	311d	1985	10.35	10.27 -06
2,	<b>COLLINS Kim</b> SKN Former World Champion & Commonwealth Games Champion at 100m ... 9.92w -03. 200 pb: 20.08w -01, 20.20 -01 (20.25 -08). qf OLY 100 96; 7 OLY 100 2000 (sf 200); 1 Central American 100 2001/2003 ; =3 WCH 200 2001; 1 COM 100 2002; 2 WCP 100 2002; 2 WIC 60 2003 (2008-2=); 1 WCH 100 2003 (97/99-ht, 2001-5, 2005-3, 2007-sf); 6 OLY 100 2004 & 200 2008 (sf 100 2008). 1 NCAA indoor 60/200 2001. His third child, Isiah, was born on March 17, 2005 ... coach-Glen Mills In 2008: 3 Kingston 400 (Jan 26); =2 WIC 60; 6 Kingston 100 (May 3); 5 Fort-de-France 100; 2 Ponce 100; 2 Berlin Golden League 100; 1 Moscow Open 100; 1 Zhukovskiy 100; 1 Lille 100; 3 Madrid 100; 6 Rome Golden League 100; 3 Barcelona 200; dq Stockholm 100 'B'; 7 London Grand Prix 100; 7 Monaco 100; 1 Amsterdam 100; 6 OLY 200 (sf 100); 4 Gateshead 100 (6 200); 6 Lausanne 100	32y	153d	1976	10.05	9.98 -02
3,	<b>FRATER Michael</b> JAM 2005 World silver at 100m ... below 10 seconds at 100m for the first time in Beijing 2008 200 pb: 20.45w, 20.63 -02. 3 Central American junior 100 2002; 5 WJC 100 2002; sf COM 100 2002; 1 Pan-Am 100 2003; qf WCH 100 2003; sf OLY 100 2004; 2 WCH 100 2005 (2003-qf); dq sf COM 100 2006 (false start); 1 COM 4x100 2006; 6 OLY 100 2008 (1 4x100). 1 Jamaican 100 2006. 1 NCAA 100 2004 ... studied Political Science at Texan Christian University ... older brother is former Jamaican sprints champion Lindel Frater In 2008: 4 Sydney 200; 2 Melbourne 100; 2 Kingston 200 (Mar 22); 3 Doha 100; 7 Berlin Golden League 100; 6 Eugene 100; 3 Jamaican 100; 5 Rome Golden League 100; 2 Stockholm 100 'B'; 3 London Grand Prix 100; 6 OLY 100 (1 4x100); 6 Zurich Golden League 100; 1 Padua 100; 4 Lausanne 100	25y	335d	1982	9.97	9.97 -08
4,	<b>POWELL Asafa</b> JAM Four world records at 100m ... twice fifth in Olympic 100m finals 200 pb: 19.90 -06. sf COM 100 2002 (2 4x100); dq/qf WCH 100 2003 (Jon Drummond's heat); sf WIC 60 2004; 5 OLY 100 2004/2008; 1 COM 100/4x100 2006; 3 WCH 100 2007 & 2 4x100; 1 OLY 4x100 2008. 1 Jamaican 100 2004/2005/2007 (1 200 2006). Plays guitar & drums ... set World records at 100m of 9.77 in Athens 2005, Gateshead 2006 and Zurich 2006, then 9.74 in Rieti 2007 ... coach-Stephen Francis ... youngest of six brothers though two are deceased ... 1.90/88kg In 2008: 5 Kingston 400; 1 Melbourne 100; 1ht Trinidad & Tobago 100 (did not compete in final); 2 Jamaican 100; 5ht Rome Golden League 100 (was clearly in the lead then suddenly slowed down with cramp in his thigh); 1 Stockholm 100 (beat Usain Bolt); 1 London Grand Prix 100; 1 Monaco 100 (9.82 with nil wind); 5 OLY 100; 1 OLY 4x100 (anchor leg timed in 8.73); 1 Gateshead 100 (9.87 in rain); 1 Lausanne 100 (pb 9.72) - never beaten in Brussels (1st 2003/2004/2006/2007)	25y	287d	1982	9.72	9.72 -08
5,	<b>MARTINA Churandy</b> AHO Fourth in Beijing Olympic 100m then originally second at 200m only to be disqualified for a lane infringement after clocking 19.82 ... Netherlands Antilles record holder at 100m, 200m & 400m 9.76w -06. 200 pb: 20.11 -08. 400m pb: 46.13 -07 (46.51 -08). sf World Youth 100 99; qf WJC 100 2002 (2000-ht); 1 South American Games 100 2002 (2 200); qf OLY 100 2004; qf WCH 100 2005 (2003-ht); 1 Central American & Caribbean Games 100 2006; 1 Pan-Am Games 100 2007; 5 WCH 100/200 2007; 4 OLY 100 2008 (2004-dq); ... student of "Multi-Disciplinary Studies" at University of Texas El Paso ... he has a gold-capped tooth engraved with the letter C, standing for his name and also his birthplace of Curacao ... coach-Wendell Prince In 2008: 2 El Paso 400; 1 UTEP Invitational (El Paso) 100/200; 1 Hengelo 200; 4 Berlin Golden League 100; 1 Madrid 100; 2ht Madrid 100; 7 Stockholm 100; 4 OLY 100 (dq 200); 5 Zurich Golden League 100; 2 Lausanne 200	24y	64d	1984	9.93	9.93 -08
6,	<b>BOLT Usain</b> JAM (Pronounced "You-Sain") ... three Olympic golds & three world records in Beijing 200 pb: 19.30 -08. 400 pb: 45.28 -07 (46.94 -08). 1 Central American Youth 200/400 2002; 1 WJC 200 2002 (2 4x100/4x400); 1 World Youth 200 2003 (2001-st); ht OLY 200 2004; 1 Central American 200 2005; 8 WCH 200 2005; 2 WCP 200 2006; 2 WCH 200 /4x100 2007; 1 OLY 100/200/4x100 2008. 1 Jamaican 200 2003 (at age 17)/2007/2008 (1 100 2008) ... coach-Glen Mills says "he can run 9.52" for 100m ... 1.95 tall (6-5) In 2008: 1 Kingston 400 (46.94); 1 Spanish Town 100 (10.03); 1 Kingston 100 (9.76); 1 Port-of-Spain 100 (9.92); 1 New York 100 (9.72); 1 Ostrava 200 (19.83); 1 Jamaican 100 (9.85) / 200 (19.97); 1 Athens 200 (19.67); 2 Stockholm 100 (9.89, 0.01 behind Asafa Powell); 1 London Grand Prix 200 (19.76); 1 OLY 100 (world record 9.69 with nil wind); 1 OLY 200 (world record 19.30 into 0.9 wind); 1 OLY 4x100 (world record 37.10); 1 Zurich Golden League 100 (9.83); 1 Lausanne 200 (19.63, so his <u>slowest</u> 200m final of the year was 19.97)	22y	16d	1986	9.69	9.69 -08
7,	<b>PADGETT Travis</b> USA Ran 9.85w in the US Olympic Trials 100m but placed only fourth, 0.01 behind Darvis Patton 200 pb: 20.32 -08. 1 NCAA indoor 60 2007; 2 NCAA 100 2008 (2007-3). Student of Sociology at Clemson University (South Carolina) In 2008: 3 NCAA indoor 60; 1 Clemson 100; 5 Auburn 200; 1 Atlanta 100 (2 200); 1 Tallahassee 100 (3 200); 2 NCAA 100 (sf 200); 4 US Olympic Trials 100; 8 Stockholm 100; 6ht London Grand Prix 100 (1 4x00); 6 Monaco 100; dnf/ht OLY 4x100 (ran second leg for team which did not finish); 4 Zurich Golden League 100	21y	267d	1986	9.89	9.89 -08
8,	<b>CARTER Nesta</b> JAM Ran opening leg for Jamaican team which won 2008 Olympic gold with a world record 200 pb: 20.31 -08. sf WJC 200 2004; 2 WCH 4x100 2007 (sf 100); 1 OLY 4x100 2008. Ran in heats of 2004 World Junior 4x100, so awarded silver won by Jamaica in final. Coach-Stephen Francis In 2008: 3 Kingston 400 race 4 (Jan 26); 1 Kingston 200 (Mar 22); 3 Mt SAC Relays 200; 4 Doha 100; 1 São Paulo 100; 1 Belém 100; 1 Berlin Golden League 100; 4 Jamaican 200 (dns 100 final); 3 Rome Golden League 100; 1 Stockholm 100 'B'; 6 London Grand Prix 100; 3 Monaco 100; 1 OLY 4x100; 2 Gateshead 100; 3 Lausanne 100	22y	300d	1985	9.98	9.98 -08
9,	<b>POGNON Ronald</b> FRA (Pronounced "Pon-yon") ... 2005 World relay gold ... holds European indoor record at 60m 200 pb: 20.27 -05 (20.45w, 20.72 -08). 2 WJC 4x100 2000 (qf 200); 1 EJC 200 2001 (2 4x100); 1 under-23 ECH 100 2003; sf WCH 100 2003/2005; ht WIC 60 2004; sf OLY 100 2004 (2008-qf); 2 EIC 60 2005 (2007-3); 1 ECP 100 2005/2006; 1 WCH 4x100 2005 (sf 100, qf 200); 4 ECH 100 2006 (3 4x100); 6 WCP 100 2006. 1 French 100 2006 & 200 2005/2008. Born-Martinique ... coach-Pierre-Jean Vazel In 2008: 3 French indoor 60; 7 Doha 100; 2 Montgeron 100; 3 Zaragoza 100; 6 Oslo Golden League 100; 3 ECP 100 'C'; 5 Lille 100; 3 Milan 100; 1 Marseille 100/200; 1 Reims 100; 2 Rethymno 100 (1 200 'B'); 1 French 200; 8 Monaco 100; 5qf OLY 100	25y	294d	1982	10.13	9.99 -05

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 400 Metres

20:52

Golden League Event



2008 World Best:	43.75	LaShawn Merritt USA	Beijing	21 Aug 08
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		Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
1,	<b>MATHIEU Michael</b> BAH	24y	73d	1984	45.17	45.17 -08
	Ran second leg for Bahamas relay team which won silvers at 2007 World Championships & 2008 Olympics 200 pb: 20.80 -07. 3 Pan-Am junior 2003; 4 Pan-American Games 200 2007 (1 4x400); 2 WCH 4x400 2007; ht WIC 2008; 2 Central American & Caribbean Champs 2008; sf OLY 2008 (2 4x400) In 2008: 3ht WIC; 2 Uberlândia; 2 Fortaleza; 5 Belgrade; 2 Kalamata 'B'; 2 Haniá; 3 Bahamian; 2 Central American & Caribbean Champs; 3 Dublin; 1 Karlstad; 6sf OLY (2 4x400); 2 OLY 4x400					
2,	<b>WISSMAN Johan</b> SWE	25y	308d	1982	44.64	44.56 -07
	Excellent transition from 200m to 400m in 2007 ... 2008 World indoor silver at 400m 200 pb: 20.30 -07. qf WJC 200 2000; qf WJC 200 2000; 2 EJC 400 2001; sf EIC 200 2002/2005; sf WCH 200 2003/2005; 3 WIC 200 2004 (2003-ht); 2 ECP 200 2004; qf OLY 200 2004; 2 ECH 200 2006 (2002-ht); 4 EIC 400 2007; 7 WCH 400 2007; 2 WIC 400 2008; 8 OLY 400 2008. 1 Swedish 200 2001/2003/2004/2006 (1 100 2004, 400 2002/2005); 1 Swedish indoor 200 2002. Has run 3000m steeplechase in 11:12.75 ... born-Helsingborg ... coach-Kenth Olsson In 2008: 2 WIC 400; 7 Berlin Golden League 400; 8 Oslo Golden League 400; 1 Karlskrona 200; 1 ECP 1st League 200/400; 1 Sundsvall 200; 1 Sollentuna 300; 4 Monaco 400; 1ht Swedish (dns final); 8 OLY 400; 4 Zurich Golden League					
3,	<b>BORLÉE Jonathan</b> BEL	20y	196d	1988	45.11	45.11 -08
	Twin brother of Kevin Borlée, the new Belgian record holder at 400m (Jonathan is the elder of the twins by five minutes) 5 World Youth 2005; 4 WJC 2006; ht EJC 2007; sf OLY 2008 (5 4x400). 1 Belgian 2006. His father/coach Jacques was an international 400m runner and he has a twin brother (Kevin) who set a Belgian 400m record of 44.88 at the Beijing Olympics, while their elder sister Olivia ran the first leg for the Belgian 4x100m relay team which won 2007 world bronze & 2008 Olympic silver In 2008: 2 Brussels (May 4); 1 Lille; 3 Brussels (Jul 12); 3 Liège 300; 2 Heusden; 5sf OLY (5 4x400 with 43.6 split & Belgian record 2:59.37)					
4,	<b>WARINER Jeremy</b> USA	24y	218d	1984	43.82	43.45 -07
	Two golds each from Athens 2004, Helsinki 2005 & Osaka 2007 but 'only' individual silver & relay gold in Beijing 2008 200 pb: 20.19 -06 (20.37 -08). 2 Pan-Am Junior 400 2003; 1 OLY 400/4x400 2004; 1 WCH 400/4x400 2005/2007; 2 OLY 2008 (1 4x400). 1 US 2004/2005. Managed by Michael Johnson ... in 2004 uniquely won NCAA titles at 400m & 4x400m both indoors and out ... student of Outdoor Recreation at Baylor University ... lives-Waco, he is having a four-bedroomed house built in Dallas, the foundations were laid while he was in Beijing ... has two dogs Heidi (St Bernard) & Lady (German Shepherd/Pyrenean Mountain mix) ... coach-Michael Ford (formerly Clyde Hart) In 2008: 2 Sydney 200; 1 Melbourne; 1 Houston 4x400 (44.2 split); 1 Arlington 200; 1 Texas Relays 4x400 (43.6 split); 1 Waco; 1 Penn Relays 4x400 (43.88 split); dns Doha 200 (strained right hamstring/warming up); 1 Carson (38th win from his last 42 races at 400m); 2 Berlin Golden League (win streak eneded by LaShawn Merritt); 1 Oslo Golden League (43.98); 1 Ostrava 300; 2 US Olympic Trials (to Merritt); 1 Rome Golden League (by 0.01 from Merritt); 1 Paris Golden League; 1 Stockholm; 2 OLY (44.74, "my first time tightening up since high school") (1 4x400 with 43.18 split); 1 Zurich Golden League					
5,	<b>BORLÉE Kevin</b> BEL	20y	196d	1988	44.88	44.88 -08
	New Belgian record holder at 44.88, he also ran a 44.25 relay split in Beijing sf World Youth 200 2005; sf WJC 2006; 6 ECP 2007. 1 Belgian indoor 400 2006 & 200 2007. His father/coach Jacques was an international 400m runner and he has a twin brother (Jonathan) who ran 45.11 in the 400m semi-finals at the Beijing Olympics, while their elder sister Olivia ran the first leg for the Belgian 4x100m relay team which won 2007 world bronze & 2008 Olympic silver ... Kevin is the younger of the twins by five minutes In 2008: 1 Brussels (May 4); 1 ECP 1st League; 1 Brussels (Jul 12); 5 Liège 300; 1 Heusden; 3sf OLY (5 4x400) – He missed qualifying for the individual Olympic final by one place					
6,	<b>ROONEY Martyn</b> GBR	21y	156d	1987	44.60	44.60 -08
	Sixth at 2008 Olympics ... terrific in relays, a 43.73 split in Beijing 2008 2 EJC 2005 (1 4x400); 4 WCH 4x400 2005 (2007-6); 5 COM 2006; 3 WJC 2006 (3 4x400); ht WCH 2007; 1 ECP 2008; 6 OLY 2008. 1 UK 2008. Born in Croydon of Irish parents, has dual nationality with Ireland ... prevented from competing at the 2004 World Junior Championship because his dual nationality had not been declared in advance ... born-Croydon, lives-Thornton Heath ... coach-Nick Dakin ... 1.98 tall In 2008: 1 Mt SAC Relays; 1 Loughborough "international"; 1 Geneva; 1 Ostrava; 1 ECP; 1 Milan; 1 UK Champs; 1 London Grand Prix; 1 Monaco; 6 OLY (4 4x400 with 43.73 split); 1 Gateshead					
7,	<b>van BRANTEGHEM Cedric</b> BEL	29y	177d	1979	45.13	45.02 -03
	Former Belgian record holder ... 200 pb: 20.52w, 20.60 -03. sf EIC 2002 (2000-ht); 6 ECH 2002 (2006-sf); sf WCH 2003 (2005-ht); sf OLY 2004/2008; 4 WSG 2005. 1 Belgian 2001/2005 (1 200 2002/2003). Younger sister Gaelle competed at the 2001 World Youth Championships ... his full name is Cédric Marie Carlos Thérèse van Branteghem ... girlfriend is former Swedish indoor 800m Champion ... coach-Patrick Himschoot In 2008: 1 Sint-Niklaas 200; 1 Brussels 200; 1 Belgrade 'B'; 1 Kalamata 'B'; 2 Lille 'B'; 1 Madrid; 9 Rome Golden League; 8sf OLY; 5 OLY 4x400 (44.44 split for team which set Belgian record 2:59.37); 7 Zurich Golden League					
8,	<b>KIKAYA Gary</b> COD	28y	214d	1980	44.89	44.10 -06
	At the 2006 World Athletics Final he broke the African record which had stood since 1987 (but not near that form since) 200 pb: 20.40 -06 (20.82 -08). sf WCH 2003/2005/2007; 3 WIC 2004; sf OLY 2004/2008; 1 African Champs 2006; 2 WCP 2006. 1 NCAA 2002 (2003-4); 1 NCAA indoor 2003. Lived in South Africa for 10 years while his father was Congo's ambassador ... his first sport was rugby but he felt he could not master the skills required ... speaks Swahili, English, French and Afrikaans ... studied Sociology at the University of Tennessee, graduated in May 2005 ... hobbies and painting, drawing and cooking ... coach-Innocent Egbunike (who was the previous African record holder) In 2008: 2 Athens GA 200; 5 Ponce; 2 Belgrade; 5 Berlin Golden League; 5 Eugene; 5sf OLY; 3 Lausanne					
9,	<b>GABA Kamghe</b> GER	24y	236d	1984	45.67	45.47 -06
	(Kamghe pronounced "Kamga") ... 2005 European under-23 silver ... 5 World Youth Octathlon 2001; 2 EJC 2003 (1 4x400); sf WJC 2004; 7 OLY 4x400 2004; 2 under-23 ECH 2005 (2 4x400); sf ECH 2006. 1 German junior 2002/2003. 45.1 relay split at Athens Olympics ... former Judo player ... coach-Daniel Limburger ... 2.02 tall In 2008: 1 Rehlingen; 5 Geneva 'B'; 1 Kassel; 6 ECP; 6 Lille 'B'; 6 German; 1 Wattenscheid; 4ht OLY 4x400 (estimated split of 44.4); 5 Zurich Golden League					

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 800 Metres

19:45



2008 World Best:	1:42.69	Abubaker Kaki SUD	Oslo	6 Jun 08
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		Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
<b>1,</b>	<b>SOM Bram</b> NED	<b>28y</b>	198d	1980	<b>1:45.55</b>	<b>1:43.45 -06</b>
	2006 European Champion at 800m ... effectively won the 2006 World Cup for Europe with his unexpected second place at 800m which came in closing stages of the tournament 5 WJC 800 98; 3 EJC 800 99; ht OLY 800 2000; sf WCH 800 2001/2003 (2007-ht); 5 WIC 800 2003; 1 ECH 800 2006 (2002-6); 2 WCP 800 2006. 1 Dutch 800 2000/2001/2003/2004/2006. Born-Terborg ... Sergeant in Dutch Army ... coach-Honoré Hoedt ... his older sister Kim ran 59.27 for 400m hurdles in 1999 In 2008: 9 Madrid 800; 9 Rome Golden League 800; 8 Heusden 800; 4 London Grand Prix 800; 8 Monaco 800; 2 Leverkusen 800; 5 Gateshead 1000					
<b>2a,</b>	<b>CZAPIEWSKI Pawel</b> POL	<b>30y</b>	160d	1978	<b>1:45.19</b>	<b>1:43.22 -01</b>
	(Pronounced "Chap-yev-ski") ... 2002 European Indoor Champion ... 2001 World bronze 1500 pb: 3:38.96i -02. ht WJC 96; 8 EJC 97; 3 under-23 ECH 99; 6 WIC 2001; 1 ECP 2001/2007 (2002-3); 3 WCH 2001 (2005-sf); 1 EIC 2002; 4 ECH 2002 (98-ht); 3 ECP 1500 2002/2005; ht OLY 2008. 1 Polish 98/2005/2007/2008 (1 1500 2002) ... former hockey player ... has twin brother, Piotr, who is an amateur footballer In 2008: 1 Polish indoor; 2 Kozenice; 1 Berlin Golden League 'B' (1:45.19, his fastest since 2002); 1 Kedzierzyn-Kozle; 6 Ostrava; 2 Warsaw; 5 Bydgoszcz; 1 Polish (2 1500); 9 Monaco; 3ht OLY; 1 Sosnowiec					
<b>2b,</b>	<b>RIMMER Michael</b> GBR	<b>22y</b>	215d	1986	<b>1:44.68</b>	<b>1:44.68 -08</b>
	2006 European finalist ... National titles as an under-15, under-17, under-20 and senior 1500 pb: 3:45.71 -07. 4 World Youth 2003 (2001-sf); 8 WJC 2004; 3 Commonwealth Youth Games 2004; 8 EJC 2005; 8 ECH 2006; 2 ECP 2007; sf WCH 2007. 1 AAA 2006 & UK 2007/2008. Coach-Norman Poole (trains with Tom Lancashire among others) In 2008: 1 Stretford 1000; 1 Watford BMC; 8 Berlin Golden League; dnf Oslo Golden League; 9 Ostrava; 1 Milan; 1 UK Champs; 6 Barcelona; 2 London Grand Prix; 6 Monaco; 6sf OLY					
<b>3,</b>	<b>MANSEUR Nadjim</b> ALG	<b>20y</b>	89d	1988	<b>1:44.75</b>	<b>1:44.75 -08</b>
	2008 Olympic Finalist ... 7 World Youth 2005; sf WJC 2006; 8 OLY 2008. He has a younger brother Liyas (16y) who is a jumper & hurdler ... coach-Amar Brahmia In 2008: 1 Doha 'B'; 9 Rabat; 4 Rome Golden League; 3 Heusden; 8 OLY; 5 Lausanne					
<b>4,</b>	<b>CHEPKIRWOK Abraham</b> UGA	<b>19y</b>	291d	1988	<b>1:43.72</b>	<b>1:43.72 -08</b>
	So near (0.02) to a medal in Osaka 2007 where he led at 600m ... 3 WJC 2006; 5 African Games 2007; 4 WCH 2007; sf WIC 2008; sf OLY 2008. Former football player, represented his district schools team in Uganda ... coach-Ricky Simms In 2008: 4sf WIC; 2 Doha; 4 Hengelo; 1 Berlin Golden League (broke the Ugandan record which had stood to Julius Achon since 1996); 5 Oslo Golden League; 2 Madrid; 2 Athens; 1 London Grand Prix; 7sf OLY; 3 Lausanne					
<b>5,</b>	<b>LAALOU Amine</b> MAR	<b>26y</b>	116d	1982	<b>1:45.02</b>	<b>1:43.25 -06</b>
	Moroccan record holder, set when winning at Rome 2006 with what was the world's second-fastest time that year ht World Youth 99; sf WJC 2000; 2 African junior 2001; 4 WIC 2004 (2006-sf, 2008-ht); sf OLY 2004/2008; 6 WCH 2007 (2003-ht, 2005-sf). 1 Moroccan 2003. His first sport was basketball In 2008: 3ht WIC; 2 Hengelo; 4 Berlin Golden League; 2 Rabat; 1 Rome Golden League; 1 Tangiers; 1 Barcelona; 4sf OLY					
<b>6,</b>	<b>KIRWA YEGO Alfred</b> KEN	<b>21y</b>	282d	1986	<b>1:44.01</b>	<b>1:43.89 -06</b>
	In Osaka he won the slowest ever World Champion 800m final but with a 24.6 last 200m ... 2008 Olympic bronze 1500 pb: 3:33.69 -08. 2 WJC 800 2004; 3 African Champs 800 2006; 1 WCH 800 2007 (2005-ht); 3 OLY 800 2008. In 2007 he won only three of his 15 races: these were the heat, semi and final at the World Championships ... coach-Claudio Berradeli (same as Janeth Jepkosgei) In 2008: 4 Doha 800; 3 Hengelo 800; 3 Berlin Golden League 800; 1 Eugene 800 (his only victory since Osaka); 3 Kenyan Olympic Trials 800; 5 Rome Golden League 800; 3 Barcelona 800; 3 OLY 800; 8 Zurich Golden League 1500					
<b>7,</b>	<b>KAMEL Youssef Saad</b> BRN	<b>25y</b>	161d	1983	<b>1:42.79</b>	<b>1:42.79 -08</b>
	TRANSFEREE – Formerly: Gregory Konchellah KEN Asian record holder at 800m ... 2008 World indoor bronze 1500 pb: 3:33.11 -08. ht OLY 2004; sf WCH 2005/2007; 1 Arab 2005; 1 WCP 2006. 1 World Athletics Final 2004; 1 Asian Games 2006; 1 Asian indoor 2008; 3 WIC 2008 (2004-sf); 5 OLY 2008 (2004-ht). The IAAF approved his transfer from November 23, 2003 ... his father is twice World 800m Champion Billy Konchellah ... new coach is Tareq Yaqoob (husband/coach of Maryam Jamal, Bahrain's World Champion at 1500m) In 2008: 1 Asian Indoor Champs; 3 WIC; 6 Hengelo; 1 New York; 2 Eugene; 3 Rome Golden League; 3 Athens; 2 Stockholm 1000; 2 Monaco (broke Asian record in close race with Borzakovskiy); 5 OLY; 4 Zurich Golden League 1500					
<b>8,</b>	<b>BUNGEI Wilfred</b> KEN	<b>28y</b>	43d	1980	<b>1:44.65</b>	<b>1:42.34 -02</b>
	Finally won Olympic gold in Beijing after having been labelled for years "The Big Race Choker" by the Kenyan press 2 WJC 98; 2 WCH 2001 (2005-4, 2007-5); 1 WIC 2006 (2003-3); 1 OLY 2008 (2004-5). Has a dairy farm and tea plantation at his hometown of Kabirirsang in the Nandi district ... his mother is a cousin of Henry Rono ... wife-Priscah Chepngetich, their son Wifried born October 20, 2005 In 2008: 6 Doha; 9 Turin; 1 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 2 Barcelona; 1 OLY; 4 Lausanne					
	He was Kenyan team Captain in Beijing where his country had its most successful Olympics (5 golds); on August 29 he returned to Kenya and was greeted by President Mwai Kibaki among others					
<b>9,</b>	<b>KOMBICH Ismael</b> KEN	<b>22y</b>	325d	1985	<b>1:44.90</b>	<b>1:44.24 -06</b>
	PACEMAKER 2006 Kenyan Champion at 800m ... 6 COM 1500 2006. 1 Kenyan 800 2006. Full name-Ismael Kipngetch Kombich In 2008: 5 Kenyan African Championship Trial 800; 1 Rio de Janeiro 800; 1 São Paulo 800; 4 Belém 800; 6 Eugene 800; 5 Kenyan Olympic Trials 800; 7 Athens 800; 4 Heusden 800; 2 Padua 800					

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 1500 Metres

20:32

Golden League Event



2008 World Best: 3:31.49 Daniel K. Komen Monaco 29 Jul 08

No-one quicker than 3:30 for more than two years now (3:29.68 Bernard Lagat USA Rieti 27 Aug 06)

	Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
<b>ALI Belal Mansoor</b> BRN	19y	323d	1988	3:33.06	3:31.49 -07
<p>TRANSFEREE – Formerly: John Yego KEN ... 800 pb: 1:44.02 -07 (1:45.95 -08). 1 World Youth 1500 2005; 7 WCH 800 2005 (ht 1500); 3 WJC 1500 2006 (7 800); 11 WCH 1500 2007 (ht 800); ht WIC 1500 2008; 8 OLY 1500 2008 (sf 800). At WXC: 2005-10J, 2006-23J. Holds World Youth bests at 800m &amp; 1500m ... before his transfer from Kenya he apparently clocked 1:46.8 for 800m at altitude in 2004 at age 15 ... he was under investigation by the IAAF for alleged age manipulation, but cleared of all charges in November 2006 In 2008: 5ht WIC 1500; 7 Doha 800; 4 Eugene Mile; 9 Tangiers 1500; 3 Paris Golden League 1500; 3 Heusden 1500; 8 OLY 1500 (sf 800); 3 Zurich Golden League 1500; 5 Lausanne 1500</p>					
<b>BOULAHFANE Kamel</b> ALG	32y	66d	1976	3:33.33	3:32.44 -04
<p>2004 Olympic finalist ... 800 pb: 1:46.07 -05. ht WIC 2001; 11 OLY 2004 (2000-sf, 2008-ht); 6 Mediterranean Games 2005; 4 African Champs 2006; 6 African Games 2007; ht WCH 2007; 10 WIC 3000 2008. At WXC: 98-69 short, 99-20 short, 2000-37 short. Coach-Amar Brahmia. Declared for 2005 World 1500m heat, but did not start ... coach-Amar Brahmia In 2008: 10 WIC 3000 (ht 1500); 10 Doha; 12 Rabat; 3 Casablanca; 8 Rome Golden League; 4 Tangiers; 11ht OLY; 11 Lausanne</p>					
<b>CASADO Arturo</b> ESP	25y	223d	1983	3:33.14	3:33.14 -08
<p>2007 European indoor bronze ... 800 pb: 1:45.69 -08. 3 EJC 2001; 6 WJC 2002; 1 Mediterranean Games 2005; 1 under-23 ECH 2005 (2003-7); 5 WCH 2005 (2007-7); ht WIC 2006; 4 ECH 2006; 3 EIC 2007 (2005-4); 4 WIC 2008; sf OLY 2008. At WXC: 2001-45J, 2002-80J. 1 Spanish 2005/2007 ... coach-Arturo Martin In 2008: 1 Spanish indoor; 4 WIC; 8 Zaragoza 3000; 1 Huelva; 2 ECP; 5 Jerez de la Frontera 800; 5 Madrid 800; 7 Rome Golden League; 1 Spanish; 11sf OLY; dnf Zurich Golden League</p>					
<b>HIGUERO Juan Carlos</b> ESP	30y	34d	1978	3:32.57	3:31.57 -06
<p>Olympic finalist in Sydney &amp; Beijing ... double bronze at 2006 Europeans ... 2007 European Indoor Champion ... 2008 World indoor bronze 800 pb: 1:46.00 -03 (1:46.77 -08). 5000 pb: 13:33.65 -06. 3 EJC 5000 97; 5 ECH 2002; 8 WIC 2003 (2001-9, 2004-ht); 1 ECP 2003/2005 (2006-2); 6 WCH 2005 (2003-11, 2007-13); 3 ECH 1500/5000 2006; 1 EIC 2007 (2000-6, 2002/2005-2); 3 WIC 2008; 5 OLY 2008 (2000-8, 204-sf). 1 Spanish 2000/2002/2003/2006/2007 (1 indoor 2002/2003/2004/2005). At WXC: 96-51J, 97-26J, 2005-39 short, 2006-31 short. At EXC: 97-4J ... coach-Antonio Serrano In 2008: 2 Spanish indoor; 3 WIC; 1 Zaragoza 3000; 11 Huelva 5000; 1 Jerez de la Frontera; 8 Madrid 800; 6 Rome Golden League; 1 Barcelona; 3 Spanish; 5 OLY; 5 Zurich Golden League</p>					
<b>IGUIDER Abdelaati</b> MAR	21y	165d	1987	3:31.88	3:31.88 -08
<p>2004 World Junior Champion at 1500m, then silver in 2006 ... 3000 pb: 7:41.95 -07. 800 pb: 1:47.14 -07. 1 WJC 2004 (2006-2); ht WCH 2007; 6 OLY 2008. At WXC: 2005-30J. Now coached by Abdelkader Kada (El Guerrouj's former trainer) In 2008: 1 Doha; 1 Rehlingen; 4 Berlin Golden League; 1 Rabat; 2 Rome Golden League; 6 OLY; 6 Zurich Golden League</p>					
<b>KEITANY Haron</b> KEN	24y	263d	1983	3:32.06	3:32.06 -08
<p>1 African Champs 2008 In 2008: 3 Kenyan African Championship Trial; 1 African Champs; 1 Dessau; 2 Oslo "Dream" Mile; 4 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 1 Rethymno; 7 Heusden; 1 Zurich Golden League (defeated Rashid Ramzi); 3 Lausanne</p>					
<b>KEMBOI Nicholas</b> KEN	18y	262d	1989	3:35.05	3:33.72 -06
<p>This is a different Nicholas Kemboi to the one who was born in 1983, ran 26:30.03 for 10,000m and has transferred to Qatar 800 pb: 1:46.65 -06. ht OLY 2008. 1 Zurich under-23 2006 In 2008: 1 Doha (Apr 30); 1 Zaragoza; 1 Tallinn; 6 Oslo "Dream" Mile; 1 Casablanca; 3 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 11ht OLY; 9 Zurich Golden League; 6 Lausanne</p>					
<b>KIMUTAI Philemon</b> KEN	25y	25d	1983	3:39.20	3:38.40 -07
<p>PACEMAKER 2 ... 800 pb: 1:47.10 -05. Paced Oslo, Paris and Rome Golden Leagues in 2007 In 2008: 2 Cottbus; 12 Liège 800; paced Monaco; 11 Wattenscheid 1500; paced Zurich Golden League 1500; paced Lausanne 1500</p>					
<b>KIPROP Asbel</b> KEN	19y	68d	1989	3:31.64	3:31.64 -08
<p>Full name-Asbel Kipruto Kiprop 2008 Olympic silver ... came from nowhere in 2007 to become World Junior Cross Country Champion and African Games Champion at 1500m ... still a junior in 2008 800 pb: 1:44.71 -08. 1 African Games 1500 2007; 4 WCH 1500 2007; 3 African Champs 800 2008; 2 OLY1500 2008. 1 Kenyan 1500 2007. He reportedly give up high school to concentrate on athletics ... his father David Kebenei was also a 1500m runner ... coach-Jimmy Beauttah ... Asbel is 1.91 (6-3) tall In 2008: 2 Kenyan African Championship Trial 800; 3 African Champs 800; 3 Kenyan 800; 2 Kenyan Olympic Trials 1500; 1 Rome Golden League 1500; 2 Paris Golden League 1500; 2 OLY 1500; 13 Zurich Golden League 1500; 1 Lausanne 800</p>					
<b>KOMEN Daniel Kipchirchir</b> KEN	23y	282d	1984	3:31.49	3:29.02 -06
<p>Twice World Indoor silver ... Mile pb: 3:48.28 -07. 5000 pb: 13:16.26 -04. 2 African junior 5000 2003; 2 WIC 2006/2008; sf WCH 2007 (2005-ht). No relation to Daniel Komen, the world 3000m record holder .... bad luck in World Championships: went out in heats in 2005; in 2007 tripped over a fallen runner in the semi-finals ... says he is self-coached In 2008: 2 WIC; 2 Berlin Golden League; 3 Eugene; 7 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 10 Rome Golden League; 11 Liège 800; 1 Monaco; 12 Zurich Golden League; 2 Lausanne</p>					
<b>MARRION Geoffrey</b> BEL	29y	292d	1978	3:40.27	3:40.27 -08
<p>2008 Belgian Indoor Champion ... 800 pb: 1:50.39 -07 In 2008: 2 Kessel-Lo; 1 Rehlingen 'B'; 1 Nivelles; 2 Belgian; 1 Brussels (Jul 12); 5 Heusden 'B'; 4 Brasschaat</p>					
<b>MOUSTAOUI Mohamed</b> MAR	23y	157d	1985	3:32.06	3:32.06 -08
<p>2007 Arab Champion ... caused a shock by defeating Bernard Lagat in 2006 Gateshead 1500m 5000 pb: 13:22.61 -05. 4 WJC 2004; 5 African Champs 2006; 1 Arab 2007; sf WCH 2007; sf OLY 2008. At WXC: 2003-28J, 2004-14J, 2005 -14 short. Based-Rabat ... coach-Ayoub El Madili In 2008: 2 Doha; 8 Berlin Golden League; 4 Oslo "Dream" Mile; 5 Rabat; 2 Casablanca; 5 Rome Golden League; 1 Tangiers; 10sf OLY</p>					
<b>RONO Geoffrey</b> KEN	21y	138d	1987	3:32.55	3:32.55 -08
<p>800 pb: 1:46.92 -07. 1 African junior 800/1500 2006; 4 WJC 1500 2006; 7 African Games 1500 2007; 5 African Champs 1500 2008. Holds world junior indoor mile best (3:58.60 in 2006) In 2008: 2 Kenyan African Championship Trial 1500; 5 African Champs 1500; 6 Berlin Golden League 1500; dnf Oslo Golden League "Dream" Mile; 3 Rabat; 2 Kenyan 1500; 8 Kenyan Olympic Trials 1500; 7 Paris Golden League 1500; 4 Stockholm 1000; 7 Monaco 1500; 9 Lausanne 1500</p>					

**SANG Alex** KEN **23/24y** 1984 **3:43.18** **3:43.18 -08**

PACEMAKER 1 ... 800 pb: 1:46.84 -08. 3 Kenyan Police 800 2004/2005  
In 2008: 4 Nakuru 800; 4 Liège 800; dnf Heusden 1500; 7 Lausanne 800

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**SCHLANGEN Carsten** GER **27y** 248d 1980 **3:34.99** **3:34.99 -08**

Reigning German Champion at 1500m indoors and out ... 3000 pb: 7:51.17 -06. ht ECH 1500 2006; 8 ECP 3000 2007; sf OLY 1500 2008.  
1 German 1500 2006/2007 (1 indoors 2008). Coach-Roland Wolff  
In 2008: 1 German indoor 1500; 3ht WIC 1500; 1 Königs Wusterhausen 1000; 10 Berlin Golden League 1500; 5 Kassel 800; 1 Cottbus  
1500; 3 ECP 1500; 5 Jerez de la Frontera 1500; dnf Cuxhaven 1500; 1 Wattenscheid 1500; 8sf OLY 1500

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**van DEVENTER Juan** RSA **25y** 164d 1983 **3:34.46** **3:34.46 -08**

In Beijing 2007 became first South African man to reach an Olympic 1500m final  
800 pb: 1:47.44 -03 (1:48.40 -08). 7 WSG 800 2005; 9 African Champs 2006; 8 African Games 2007; 12 WSG 2007; 3 African Champs  
2008; 7 OLY 2008. 1 South African 2006/2007. Born-Johannesburg ... he has dual nationality with Great Britain, mother (Sandra Bannister)  
was born in Leicester, father-Frans is South African  
In 2008: 2 Potchefstroom 3000; 1 Germiston; 6 Pretoria 800; 2 South African; 1 South African Universities 5000/5000/10,000/Half Mar; 1  
South African Universities Half Mar; 3 African Champs; 2 Rehlingen; 2 Zaragoza; 7 OLY; 7 Lausanne

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**WILLIS Nick** NZL **25y** 134d 1983 **3:33.51** **3:32.17 -06**

2008 Olympic 1500m bronze ... 2006 Commonwealth Games Champion at 1500m ... in 2005 broke the New Zealand record 1500m which  
had stood to John Walker since 1975  
5000 pb: 13:27.54 -05. Mile pb: 3:50.66 -08. 800 pb: 1:45.54 -04 (1:45.87 -08). 4 WJC 1500 2002; 1 COM 1500 2006; 3 WCP 1500 2006;  
10 WCH 1500 2007 (2005-sf); 3 OLY 1500 2008 (2004-sf). 1 NCAA indoor1500 2005. At WXC: 2003-91 short, 2004-42 short. Economics  
Graduate from University of Michigan ... coach-Ron Warhurst  
In 2008: 3 Millrose Games Mile; dq WIC (originally 5th, he ran inside the track); 1 New Zealand 1500; 1 Ypsilanti 800; dnf Hillsdale 1500; 1  
Ann Arbor 800; 2 Carson 1500; 4 New York 800; 2 Eugene Mile; 6 London Grand Prix 800; 3 Monaco 1500; 3 OLY 1500; 2 Gateshead  
1000

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 5000 Metres

18:35



2008 World Best:	12:50.55	Moses Masai KEN	Berlin	1 Jun 08
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	Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
<b>ABDOSH Ali</b> ETH	<b>21y</b>	9d	1987	<b>13:06.52</b>	<b>13:01.44 -06</b>
10,000 pb: 27:04.92 -07. 3 African Junior 10,000 2005 (4 5000); 5 African Games 5000 2007; 3 African Champs 5000 2008. At WXC: 2006 -5 short In 2008: 3 African Champs 5000; 1 Carson 5000; 2 New York 5000; 4 Ostrava 5000; 6 Rome Golden League 5000					
He would have run the Olympic 5000m if Kenenisa Bekele had not doubled up in Beijing					
<b>AGGOUNE Khoudir</b> ALG	<b>27y</b>	244d	1981	<b>13:15.79</b>	<b>13:10.16 -06</b>
Algerian record holder at 10,000m ... 10,000 pb: 27:58.03 -08. 2000 pb: 5:05.79 -05. 3000 pb: 7:43.63 -03. 6 WJC 5000 2000; ht WCH 5000 2001/2003/2007; ht WIC 3000 2003/2004; 1 Arab 5000 2004; ht OLY 5000 2004. At WXC: 2000-24J, 2002-26 short, 2003-27 short, 2004 -24 short, 2006-16 short. Born-Souk El-Tenine In 2008: 1 Algerian XC; 4 French 10,000; 3 Lille 5000; 16 Madrid 1500; 5 Tangiers 5000					
<b>CHEPKOK Vincent</b> KEN	<b>20y</b>	62d	1988	<b>13:06.41</b>	<b>13:06.41 -08</b>
Full name-Vincent Kiprop Chepkok ... 10,000 pb: 28:23.46 -06. At WXC: 2007-2J. 1 Kenyan junior XC 2008 In 2008: 6 Kenyan Armed Forces XC; 16 Kenyan XC; 5 Kenyan African Championship Trial 5000; 1 Kassel 5000; 7 Ostrava 5000; 8 Kenyan Olympic Trials 5000; 7 Heusden 5000; 1 Oordegem 3000; 9 Wattenscheid 1500					
<b>DABA Bekana</b> ETH	<b>20y</b>	47d	1988	<b>13:04.91</b>	<b>13:04.91 -08</b>
ht WCH 5000 2007. Surprise selection for 2007 World Championships after he won with a fast time on his one and only opportunity to race outside of Ethiopia (in Brasschaat) before Osaka In 2008: 4 Carson 5000; 9 Rome Golden League 5000; 5 Heusden 5000					
<b>DABA Demma</b> ETH	<b>19y</b>	231d	1989	-	-
1500 pb: 3:35.27 -08. 3000 pb: 7:42.63 -07. 9 African Games 1500 2007; 6 African Champs 1500 2008. Helped pace 2007 Brussels 10,000m & 2008 Oslo mile In 2008: 6 African Champs; 3 Rehlingen; 3 Malmö; paced Oslo Mile; 8ht OLY 1500					
<b>FARAH Mohamed</b> GBR	<b>25y</b>	177d	1983	<b>13:25.01</b>	<b>13:07.00 -07</b>
2006 European Cross Country Champion & 5000m silver ... 3000 pb: 7:38.15 -06 (7:39.55 -08). 1500 pb: 3:38.02 -06 (3:39.66 -08). 10,000 pb: 27:44.54 -08. Mile pb: 3:56.49 -05. 6 World Youth 3000 99; 10 WJC 5000 2000; 1 EJC 5000 2001; 2 under-23 ECH 5000 2003/2005; 2 ECP 3000 2005/2006; 9 COM 5000 2006; 2 ECH 5000 2006; 5 EIC 3000 2007 (2005-6); 6 WCH 5000 2007 (led at bell); 6 WIC 3000 2008; 1 ECP 5000 2008; ht OLY 5000 2008. At WXC: 2000-25J, 2001-59J, 2003-74 short, 2006-40 short, 2007-11. At EXC: 99-5J, 2000-7J (fell), 2001-2J, 2002-30J, 2004-15, 2005-21, 2006-1. 1 AAA indoor 3000 2003/2005; 1 UK indoor 3000 2007... born-Mogadishu (SOM), came to Britain in 1993, has several relatives living in the Netherlands ... lives-Teddington where he shares a house with other top British endurance athletes ... advised by Alan Storey and Mark Rowland In 2008: 6 WIC 3000; 2 Carlsbad 5K; 5 Stanford 10,000 (the fastest by a British athlete since 2000); 3 London 10K; 17 Ostrava 5000; 1 ECP 5000; 2 UK Champs 1500; 6 London Grand Prix 3000; 8 Monaco 3000; 6ht OLY 5000 5000; 5 Gateshead 3000					
<b>KIGEN Mike</b> KEN	<b>22y</b>	234d	1986	<b>13:34.41</b>	<b>12:58.58 -06</b>
2006 Kenyan Champion at 5000m ... full name-Mike Kipruto Kigen ... 3000 pb: 7:35.87 -06 (7:37.66 -08). 10,000 pb: 28:03.70 -06. 2 African Champs 5000/10,000 2006; 2 WCP 5000 2007. At WXC: 2006-5 long (team gold). 1 Kenyan 5000 2006 In 2008: 1 Cork 3000; 4 Joensuu 2000; 1 Great Capital Run (London) 10K; 2 London Grand Prix 3000; 6 Monaco 3000; 4 Gateshead 3000					
<b>KIPCHOGE Eliud</b> KEN	<b>23y</b>	304d	1984	<b>13:02.06</b>	<b>12:46.53 -04</b>
Two Olympic medals and two World Championship medals at 5000m ... 1500 pb: 3:33.20 -04. 3000 pb: 7:27.72 -04. 10,000 pb: 26:49.02 -07. Mile pb: 3:50.40 -04. 1 WCH 5000 2003 (2005-4, 2007-2); 3 WIC 3000 2006; 2 OLY 5000 2008 (2005-3). At WXC: 2002-5J, 2003-1J, 2004-4 long, 2005-5 long. 1 Kenyan junior XC 2002/2003. Set a world junior 5000m record of 12:52.61 in Oslo on June 26, 2003. Kipchoge = born near the grain storage bin ... daughter Lynne Jebet born October 19, 2006 In 2008: 3 Edinburgh XC; 2 Cinque Mulini XC; 4 Doha 3000; 3 Hengelo 10,000; 1 Ostrava 5000; 2 Kenyan Olympic Trials 5000; 2 Rome Golden League 5000; 2 OLY 5000					
<b>KIPSIRO Moses</b> UGA	<b>22y</b>	4d	1986	<b>12:54.70</b>	<b>12:50.72 -07</b>
2007 World bronze at 5000m & fourth at 2008 Olympics ... 2006 African Champion at 10,000m 3000 pb: 7:32.03 -07 (7:32.42 -08). 10,000 pb: 28:03.46 -06. 7 COM 5000 2006; 1 African Champs 10,000 2006 (3 5000); 3 WCH 5000 2007 (2005-ht); 4 OLY 5000 2008. At WXC: 2003-18J, 2005-21J, 2006-29 short & 23 long, 2007-dnf, 2008-13 ... second of seven children In 2008: 1 Ugandan XC; 13 WXC; 3 Doha 3000; 2 Bangalore 10K; 3 Berlin Golden League 5000; 1 Watford BMC 1500; 4 OLY 5000; 2 Zurich Golden League 5000					
<b>KOSGEI Shadrack</b> KEN	<b>23y</b>	285d	1984	<b>13:13.51</b>	<b>13:01.06 -05</b>
3000 pb: 7:41.51 -07 (7:46.53 -08). At WXC: 2007-10 short In 2008: 8 Kenyan Armed Forces XC; 8 Sydney; 2 Melbourne 5000; 2 Australian 3000; 6 New Orleans 10K; 3 Mobile AL 10K; 6 Carlsbad 5K; 1 New York 5000; 6 Eugene 2M; 3 Tangiers 5000; 7 Barcelona 5000; 11 Stockholm 3000; paced London Grand Prix 3000; 7 Gateshead 3000					
<b>KOSGEY Joseph</b> KEN	<b>34y</b>	12d	1974	-	<b>13:11.32 -04</b>
Eighth individually & team gold in short race at 2002 World Cross Country Championships 3000 pb: 7:39.38 -02 (7:43.04 -08). 12 Oslo 5000 2001. Paced Brussels 10,000 2002, 2003, 2004 & 2006. At WXC: 2002-8 short. Was based Norway in 2001 (had same coach as Marius Bakken), now in Trento, Italy ... 6th of 10 children ... he owns a small maize farm in Eldoret In 2008: paced Rome Golden League 5000; 9 Paris Golden League 3000; 13 Monaco 3000					
<b>MATEBO Levi</b> KEN	<b>18y</b>	307d	1989	<b>13:03.04</b>	<b>13:03.04 -08</b>
Full name-Levi Matebo Omari Tenth in the World Cross Country Championship junior race in Edinburgh 2008 3000 pb: 7:39.43 -08. At WXC: 2008-10J. 1 Kenyan junior XC 2008 In 2008: 1 Kenyan junior XC; 10 WXC-j; 12 Heillecourt 8.8K; 2 Rehlingen 3000; 2 Kassel 5000; 1 Liège 3000; 2 Heusden 5000; 3 Gateshead 3000					

**NDIWA Mang'ata** KEN **20/21y** 1987 **13:05.27** **13:05.27 -08**

Full name- Mang'ata Kimai Ndiwa

2006 World Junior Cross Country Champion

3000 pb: 7:40.39 -08. At WXC: 2005-5J. 3 Kenyan 5000 2005; 2 African junior 5000 2005. His father was a middle distance runner ... born-Kongit, near Kapsakwony, Mt. Elgon District

In 2008: 13 Kenyan XC; 8 Berlin Golden League 5000; 10 Ostrava 5000; 3 Liège 3000; 6 Heusden 5000; 9 Monaco 3000

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**ROTICH Lucas** KEN **18y** 143d 1990 **13:17.88** **13:17.88 -08**

Full name-Lucas Kimeli Rotich

Third in 2008 World Cross Country Championships junior race

3000 pb: 7:44.07 -08. 2 World Youth 3000 2007. At WXC: 2008-3J

In 2008: 1 Kenyan North Rift junior XC; 4 Kenyan junior XC; 3 WXC-j; 10 Doha 3000; 6 Rehlingen 1500; 13 Berlin Golden League 5000; 3 Kenyan junior 5000; 1 Heusden 5000 'B'; 2 Oordegem 3000; 12 Wattenscheid 1500

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**SONGOK Isaac** KEN **24y** 133d 1984 **13:06.25** **12:48.66 -06**

2003 Kenyan 1500m Champion ... 2001 World Youth 1500m Champion ... 3000 pb: 7:28.72 -06 (7:35.06 -08). 1500 pb: 3:30.99 -04

(3:41.10 -08). 1 World Youth 1500 2001; 7 WJC 1500 2002; 9 WCH 1500 2003; 12 OLY 1500 2004; 10 WCH 5000 2005 (2007-ht); 2

African Champs 5000 2008. At WXC: 2004-7 short, 2005- 3 short. 2006-2 short. 1 Kenyan junior 2002 & senior 2003. Three sisters & four brothers ... second of seven children ... from same village at Bernard Lagat ... in Linz 2001 broke the 37 year-old world youth mile best of Jim Ryn

In 2008: 10 Kenyan XC; 1 Kenyan African Championship Trial 5000; 2 African Champs 5000; 6 Doha 3000; 10 Oslo "Dream" Mile; 3 Ostrava 5000; 5 Kenyan Olympic Trials 5000; 2 Stockholm 3000; 2 Monaco 3000; 2 Gateshead 3000

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**TEGENKAMP Matt** USA **26y** 230d 1982 **13:28.52** **13:04.90 -06**

So near (0.03) to 2007 World 5000m bronze ... 1500 pb: 3:34.25 -07. 3 WCP 5000 2006; 4 WCH 5000 2007; 13 OLY 5000 2008. At WXC: 2001-5J. 1 US junior XC 2001; 2 US Champs 5000 2006 & indoor 3000 2007/2008. Was at University of Wisconsin

In 2008: 1 US indoor 3000; 2 Tempe 1500; 1 Stanford 1500 'B'; 10 Hengelo 5000; 2 US Olympic Trials 5000; 4 Stockholm 3000; 13 OLY 5000; 6 Gateshead 3000

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**WARGA Sahle** ETH **26/27y** 1981 **13:41.49** **13:06.51 -07**

Full name is apparently Sahle Warge Betona ... 3000 pb: 7:41.05 -08. Road 10K pb: 28:35 -05. 17 Great Ethiopian Run 10K

In 2008: 14 Hengelo 5000; 9 Belgrade 5000; 7 Paris Golden League 3000; 15 Stockholm 3000; 16 Monaco 3000

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# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 10,000 Metres

21:30



2008 World Best: 26:25.97 Kenenisa Bekele ETH Eugene 8 Jun 08

The pace of Kenenisa Bekele's world record 26:17.53 from 2005 – 1000m: 2:40.6; 2000m: 5:16.4; 3000m: 7:53.3; 4000m: 10:30.4; 5000m: 13:09.4; 6000m: 15:44.7; 6000m: 18:24.0; 8000m: 21:04.6; 9000m: 23:45.1. Last lap: 57.1

	Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
<b>ABDULLAH Ahmad Hassan</b> QAT TRANSFEREE – formerly Albert Chepkurui KEN, now officially a citizen of Qatar having been issued with a Qatari passport on August 9, 2003 ... third in 2004 World Half Marathon & 2005 World Cross Country long race 5000 pb: 12:56.27 -03 (13:09.97 -08). 3000 pb: 7:43.01 -00. 3 Goodwill Games 10,000 2001; 4 WCH 10,000 2003 (2007-dnf); 1 Asian Champs 10,000 2003/2007 (2 5000 2007); 3 World Half Mar 2004; 1 Asian XC 2007; 8 OLY 10,000 2008. At WXC: 99-5J, 2001-6 short, 2002-6 long, 2004-4 short, 2005-8 short & 3 long, 2007-12, 2008-8. Born-Keiyo In 2008: 8 WXC; 2 Dublin 10K; 10 Hengelo 10,000; 13 Heusden 5000; 8 OLY 10,000; 5 Zurich Golden League 5000	<b>27y</b>	39d	1981	<b>27:23.75</b>	<b>26:38.76-03</b>
<b>BETT Josphat</b> KEN 2008 World Junior Champion at 10,000m In 2008: 13 Kenyan junior XC; 1 Kenyan junior 10,000; 1 WJC 10,000	<b>18y</b>	86d	1990	<b>27:30.85</b>	<b>27:30.85 -08</b>
<b>BOLLEN Frank</b> BEL PACEMAKER 1 ... 3000 pb: 7:57.42 -08. 5000 pb: 13:50.21 -08 In 2008: 8 Arnhem 1500; 4ht Belgian 1500; 15 Liège 3000; 22 Heusden 5000 'B'; 8 Oordegem 3000; 18 Wattenscheid 3000	<b>25y</b>	305d	1982	-	<b>29:24.79 -07</b>
<b>DINKESA Abebe</b> ETH Full name-Abebe Dinkesa Negera Improved at 10,000m by 53 seconds in 2005 but has not improved since then Half Mar pb: 61:53 -05. 5000 pb: 12:55.58 -05 (13:12.22 -08). 2 African Champs 10,000 2004 (2006-3); 7 WCH 10,000 2005; 5 World Half Mar 2005 (2004-10). 1 Great Ethiopian Run 2004. At WXC: 2002-9J, 2005-4 long. 2006-39 short & 71 long, 2007-dnf, 2008-41 In 2008: 1 Ethiopian XC; 41 WXC; 18 Ostrava 5000; 4 Milan 5000; 1 Pergine Valsugana 10,000; 4 London Grand Prix 3000	<b>24y</b>	183d	1984	<b>27:17.27</b>	<b>26:30.74 -05</b>
<b>DISI Dieudonné</b> RWA Rwandan record holder at 10,000m ... made significant breakthrough to place sixth in 2007 World Half Marathon Hal Mar pb: 59:32 -07 (61:07 -08). 5000 pb: 13:25.13 08. 69 World Half Mar 2000; 13 African Champs 5000 2002; 8 African Games 10,000 2003; 4 African Champs 10,000 2004; 17 OLY 10,000 2004 (2008-19); 17 WCH 10,000 2005; ht WIC 3000 2006; 9 World 20K 2006; ht WCH 5000 2007; 6 World Half Mar 2007. At WXC: 98-136 long, 2002-54 short & 87 long, 2003-30 long, 2004-18; 2007-23, 2005-32 long, 2006-40 long, 2008-dnf. 1 International Military long course XC 2003. Lost parents & eight brothers in 1994 genocide, he then fled to Burundi by foot In 2008: 5 Coamo Half Mar; 8 R'as Al Khaimah Half Mar; 5 Abu Dhabi Half Mar; dnf WXC (he was accidentally struck by a large Ethiopian flag); 7 Toa Baja 10K; 5 Spokane 12K; 1 Ghent 1500; 12 Paris Golden League 3000; 18 Heusden 5000; 5 French 5000; 19 OLY 10,000	<b>27y</b>	285d	1980	<b>27:56.74</b>	<b>27:22.28 -07</b>
<b>FIKADU Habtamu</b> ETH Full name-Habtamu Fikadu Awash 7 African Games 10,000 2007. At WXC: 2006-6J, 2007-28J, 2008-8 In 2008: 4 Ethiopian XC; 9 WXC	<b>20y</b>	176d	1988	-	<b>27:06.47 -07</b>
<b>JEYLAN Ibrahim</b> ETH Full name-Ibrahim Jeylan Gashu 2006 World Junior Champion at 10,000m, 2008 World Junior Cross Country Champion 5000 pb: 13:09.38 -06 (13:15.12 -08). 2 World Youth 3000 2005; 1 WJC 10,000 2006 (2008-3). At WXC: 2006-5J, 2007-dnfJ, 2008-1J. 1 Ethiopian junior XC 2006/2007/2008 In 2008: 1 Ethiopian junior XC; 1 WXC-j; 2 African Champs 10,000; 4 Hengelo 5000; 2 Eugene 10,000; 3 WJC 10,000	<b>19y</b>	86d	1989	<b>27:13.85</b>	<b>27:02.81 -06</b>
<b>JOSEPH Marco</b> TAN 5000 pb: 13:27.74 -08. At WXC: 2007-22J In 2008: 1 East African junior XC; 1 Dar-es-Salaam Half Mar; 1 Arusha Half Mar; 3 "Good Luck" Beijing 10,000; 2 Merksem 5000	<b>19y</b>	25d	1989	<b>28:52.29</b>	<b>28:52.29 -08</b>
<b>KEFLEZIGHI Meb</b> USA Surprise Olympic Marathon silver in Athens 2004 (though he says he wasn't surprised) ... US record holder at 10,000m Mar pb: 2:09:53 -04. 5 Pan-Am Games 10,000 99; 12 OLY 10,000 2000; 4 WCP 5000 2002; 9 New York 2002 (marathon debut); 6 WCH 10,000 2003 (2001-23, 2005-dnf); 7 Chicago 2003; 2 Birmingham AL 2004; 2 OLY 2004; 2 New York 2004 (2006-21, food poisoning); 3 Boston 2006. At WXC: 2000-26 long, 2001-13 long, 2002-14 long, 2003-11 long. 1 US 10,000 2000/2002; 1 US road 15K 2001/2002/2003/2004/2006/2007. 1 NCAA 5000/10,000 97. 1 NCAA XC 97. 1 US 10,000 2004. Emigrated from Eritrea in 1987 (then at war) at age 10, originally to Italy (Milan) for 18 months then San Diego ... one of 13 children ... became US citizen on July 2, 1998 ... studied Business & Communications at the UCLA ... lives-lives-Mammoth Lakes, California (7200 ft altitude), trains with Deena Kastor and Ryan Hall ... wife-Yordanos Asdegom, their daughter Sara (1) ... coach-Bob Larsen In 2008: 13 US Olympic Trials 10,000; 2 Falmouth MA 7M	<b>33y</b>	124d	1975	<b>28:39.02</b>	<b>27:13.98 -01</b>
<b>KIMURER Joel</b> KEN 5000 pb: 13:32.43 -08 In 2008: 3 Catania 12K; 5 French 10K; 3 Velletri 5000; 6 Lille 5000	<b>20y</b>	228d	1988	-	-
<b>KIPKORIR Edwin</b> KEN PACEMAKER 2 ... 5000 pb: 13:24.45 -08. 7 Kenyan 5000 2007 In 2008: 1 Kericho junior XC; 61 Kenyan junior XC; 8 Kenyan African Championship Trial 10,000; 1 Rehlingen 3000; 20 Neerpelt 10,000; 4 Kassel 5000; 7 Tangiers 5000; 8 Liège 3000; 4 Heusden 5000 'B'	<b>19y</b>	3d	1989	<b>28:38.85</b>	<b>28:38.2 -08</b>
<b>KIPROP Boniface</b> UGA Full name-Boniface Kiprop Toroitich 2006 Commonwealth Games Champion at 10,000m ... fourth at 10,000m at both Athens 2004 & Helsinki 2005 5000 pb: 12:57.11 -06 (13:17.26 -08). 1 African junior 5000 2001 (2 10,000); 1 African junior 5000/10,000 2003; ht WCH 5000 2003; 4 African Games 10,000 2003 (6 5000); 3 Afro-Asian Games 10,000 2003; 1 WJC 10,000 2004 (5 5000); 4 OLY 10,000 2004 (2008-10); 4 WCH 10,000 2005 (2007-10); 1 COM 10,000 2006; 6 African Games 10,000 2007. At WXC: 2000-27J, 2002-3J, 2003/2004-2J, 2005-7 long, 2006-22 long, 2007-dnf ( collapsed in the heat with 600m to go while in fifth position), 2008-16. Older brother is Martin Toroitich (11 World Junior XC 2002) ... Kiprop = born when it's raining ... member of Kalenjin tribe, most of whom live in Kenya In 2008: 4 Maliaño XC; 3 Haro XC; 16 WXC; 2 Edinburgh 10K; 5 Hengelo 10,000; 16 Ostrava 5000; 1 London Grand Prix 3000; 10 OLY 10,000; 11 Zurich Golden League 5000	<b>22y</b>	329d	1985	<b>27:19.26</b>	<b>26:39.77 -05</b>
<b>KIPRUTO Silas</b> KEN Won 2008 French Championship Road 10K ... 5000 pb: 13:02.86 -08 In 2008: 6 Kenyan Police XC; 2 San Juan 10K; 5 Heillecourt 8.8K; 1 French 10K; 8 Hengelo 10,000; 5 Berlin Golden League 5000; 7 Kenyan Olympic Trials 5000; 2 Liège 3000; 12 Heusden 5000; 1 Merksem 5000	<b>23y</b>	344d	1984	<b>27:26.31</b>	<b>27:26.31 -08</b>

**KIPTOO Mark** KEN **32y** 76d 1976 **27:14.67** **27:14.67 -08**

Full name-Mark Kosgei Kiptoo

Member of Kenyan Air Force, he served on peacekeeping missions in Burundi

3000 pb: 7:36.43 -08. 5000 pb: 13:06.60 -08. 9 African Games 5000 2007; 1 World Military Games 5000 2007 (2 10,000). 2 Kenyan 5000 2007. At WXC: 2008-14

He was the Kenyan Team Captain at the 2008 World Cross Country Championships in Edinburgh

In 2008: 3 Kenyan Armed Forces XC; 2 Kenyan XC ("I went to the front too early and as a result I burnt myself"); 14 WXC; 3 Heillecourt 8.8K; 3 French 10K; 2 Dakar 3000; 4 Eugene 10,000; 1 Kenyan 5000; 4 Kenyan Olympic Trials 10,000; 4 Rome Golden League 5000; 5 Paris Golden League 3000; 5 London Grand Prix 3000; 4 Monaco 3000; 7 Zurich Golden League 5000

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**KIPYEGO Bernard** KEN **22y** 52d 1986 **(27:49.14)** **26:59.51 -07**

Full name-Bernard Kipyego Kiprop

Third in 2007 World Cross Country Championships at age 20

5000 pb: 13:09.96 -05. 3 African junior 10,000 2003; 4 Brussels 10,000 2007. At WXC: 2005-2J, 2007-3, 2008-10. Second of 10 children

In 2008: 10 WXC; 2 Heillecourt; 1 Edinburgh 10K; 12 Hengelo 10,000; 12 Berlin Golden League 5000

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**KOGO Micah** KEN **22y** 95d 1986 **27:04.11** **26:35.63 -06**

2008 Olympic bronze at 10,000m ... 5000 pb: 13:00.77 -06 (13:03.71 -08). 3000 pb: 7:38.67 -07. 3 OLY 10,000 2008. 1 AAA road 10K 2005; 1 Brussels 10,000 2006 (2007-3); 1 Manchester 10K 2007 & London 10K 2008

In 2008: 4 Amorebieta XC; 2 Brunssum 10K; 1 Spokane 12K; 1 London 10K (held on part of 2012 Olympic marathon course); 6 Berlin Golden League 5000; 3 Kenyan Olympic Trials 10,000; 2 Barcelona 5000; 3 OLY 10,000; 6 Zurich Golden League 5000

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**KOMEN Jonathan** KEN **26y** 214d 1982 - -

PACEMAKER 3 ... 5000 pb: 13:12.02 -08. 3000 pb: 7:53.20 -08. 1500 pb: 3:36.80 -08. 11 COM 1500 2006

In 2008: 45 Kenyan XC; 1 Warsaw 1500; 8 Jerez de la Frontera 1500; 1 Lille 5000; 2 Milan 5000; 1 Thessaloniki 3000; 2 Rethymno 1500; paced Monaco 3000; paced Zurich Golden League 5000; paced Lausanne 3000

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**KOMON Leonard** KEN **20y** 239d 1988 **26:57.08** **26:57.08 -08**

Full name-Leonard Patrick Komon

Second in 2008 World Cross Country Championships at age 20

3000 pb: 7:34.06 -08. 5000 pb: 13:04.12 -06 (13:17.48 -08). At WXC: 2006-2J, 2007-4J, 2008-2. Youngest of 14 children

In 2008: 7 Kenyan XC; 2 WXC; 1 Heillecourt 8.8K; 5 Doha 3000; 4 Hengelo 10,000; 1 Zhukovskiy 5000; 10 Zurich Golden League 5000

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**MASAI Moses** KEN **22y** 97d 1986 **27:04.11** **26:49.20 -07**

Full name-Moses Ndiema Masai

He was fourth in the Beijing Olympic 10,000m, his sister was fourth in the women's 10,000m at the same Games

5000 pb: 12:50.55 -08. 10 WJC 10,000 2004; 1 African junior 5000/10,000 2005; 4 OLY 10,000 2008. 2 Brussels 10,000 2007, where he closed up dramatically on Kenenisa Bekele. At WXC: 2004-16J, 2005-7J, 2008-5. 1 Kenyan junior 10,000 2004. Partner-Doris Changeywo, the 2007 World Military Games 10,000m Champion ... great record in Brussels 10,000: 7th-5th-2nd in 2004-06-07

In 2008: 1 Kenyan Police XC; 8 Kenyan XC; 5 WXC; 1 Brunssum 10K; 4 Bangalore 10K; 1 Berlin Golden League 5000 (his pb down from 13:08.81 to 12:50.55); 1 Kenyan Olympic Trials 10,000; 1 Barcelona 5000; 4 OLY 10,000 (missed bronze by 0.004); 3 Zurich Golden League 5000

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**ROTICH Bernard** KEN **28:14.94** **28:14.94 -08**

5000 pb: 13:18.41 -08

In 2008: 4 Kenyan Prisons XC; 19 Kenyan XC; 5 Kenyan African Championship Trial 10,000 (9 5000); 4 Rabat 5000; 3 Casablanca 10,000

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**SIHINE Sileshi** ETH **25y** 120d 1983 **26:50.53** **26:39.69 -04**

Full name-Sileshi Sihine Mekuria

'The Silver Man' ... silvers at 2004 Olympic 10,000m, 2005 World 5000 & 10,000m, 2006 World XC, 2007 World 10,000m & 2008 Olympic 10,000m

5000 pb: 12:47.04 -04 (12:58.41 -08). 3000 pb: 7:29.92 -05. 2 WJC 10,000 2002; 1 African Games 10,000 2003; 2 OLY 10,000 2004/2008; 2 WCH 5000/10,000 2005 (2003-3); 4 World Half Mar 2005; 2 WCH 10,000 2007. At WXC: 2002-6J, 2003-7 long, 2004-3 long, 2006-12 short & 2 long, 2007-16, 2008-15. Holds Ethiopian all-comers records at 5000 & 10,000 ... Sihine means "victory" in Amharic ... fiancé-Tirunesh Dibaba (they plan to marry in October 2008)

In 2008: 15 WXC; 1 Hengelo 10,000; 1 Huelva 5000; 1 Rome Golden League 5000; 2 OLY 10,000

If it were not for Kenenisa Bekele, he would be double Olympic and Double World Champion at 10,000m

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 3000m Steeplechase

19:30



2008 World Best: 8:00.57 Paul Kipsiele Koech Heusden 20 Jul 08

No-one below eight minutes since Paul Kipsiele Koech (7:58.80) at this meeting one year ago

	Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
<b>ABDI Youcef</b> AUS	<b>30y</b>	273d	1977	<b>8:16.36 -08</b>	<b>8:16.36 -08</b>
2002 Commonwealth Games bronze medallist at 1500m ... sixth in 2008 Olympic Steeplechase final 1500 pb: 3:36.35 -02/03. Mile pb: 3:56.23 -03. ht WJC 800 96 (for Algeria); 3 COM 1500 2002; 4 WCP 1500 2002; sf WCH 1500 2003; 11 COM 3000SC 2006; 5 WCP 3000SC 2006; ht WCH 3000SC 2007; 6 OLY 3000SC 2008. 1 Australian 3000SC 2004/2006. 1 Australian Olympic Trials 1500 2000, but did not have qualifying time for the Games. Stayed in Australia after the 1996 World Junior Championships in Sydney and became an Australian Citizen in June 2000 ... was at school in France with soccer star Thierry Henry ... coach-Lindsay Watson ... lives-Sydney In 2008: 4 Sydney 3000SC; 3 Australian 3000SC; 10 Hengelo 3000SC; 1 Algiers 3000SC; 1 Rennes 3000SC; 3 Prague 3000SC; 2 Gothenburg 1500; 5 Metz 3000SC; 5 Dublin Mile; 3 Monaco 3000SC; 6 OLY 3000SC; 13 Gateshead 3000					
He is very near to the Australian record of 8:16.22 which has stood to Shaun Creighton since 1993					
<b>BUČ Bostjan</b> SLO	<b>28y</b>	145d	1980	<b>8:26.86</b>	<b>8:16.96 -03</b>
Slovenian steeplechase record holder & 8x Champion ... 7 under-23 ECH 2001; ht ECH 2002/2006; ht WCH 2003/2005/2007; ht OLY 2004/2008. 1 Slovenian 99-2007. At WXC: 99-85J, 2002-96 short, 2003-38 short, 2004-85 short, 2005-108 short. At EXC: 97-33J, 98-54J, 99-82J, 2003-dnf, 2004-73 In 2008: 8 Prague; 3 ECP 1st League; dnf Velenje; dq/ht OLY					
<b>EZZINE Hamid</b> MAR	<b>24y</b>	336d	1983	<b>8:13.20</b>	<b>8:09.72 -07</b>
Younger brother of 2001 world silver medallist Ali Ezzine ... 12 WJC 5000 2002; 4 African Champs 2004 (2006-5); ht WCH 2005/2007; ht OLY 2008. At WXC: 2004-30 short, 2005-41 short, 2006-21 short. Improved by more than 10 seconds in 2007 but then fell in his World Championship heat In 2008: 2 Madrid; 3 Athens; 4 Stockholm; dnf Monaco; 6ht OLY					
<b>KESKISALO Jukka</b> FIN	<b>27y</b>	163d	1981	<b>8:22.35</b>	<b>8:16.74 -06</b>
Shock European Champion in 2006 after being only sixth at the bell 7 EJC 99; 7 WJC 2000; 3 under-23 ECH 2003; 9 WCH 2003 (2005-ht); 3 ECP 2006; 1 ECH 2006; 4 WCP 2006. 1 Finnish 2003/2005/2006/2008 (1 1500 2003/2006). At WXC: 99-109J. At EXC: 99-78J, 2000-46J In 2008: 1 Finnish indoor 3000; 13 Hengelo; 1 Helsinki 3000; 6 Huelva; 4 ECP 1st League; 1 Kuortane 1500; 6 Rome Golden League; 3 Joensuu 2000; 10 Stockholm; 1 Finnish; 1 FIN v SWE					
<b>KIPLAGAT Benjamin</b> UGA	<b>19y</b>	186d	1989	<b>8:14.29</b>	<b>8:14.29 -08</b>
Ugandan record holder but still a junior ... 2008 World junior silver 5000 pb: 13:22.67 -07. 7 African Games 2007. ht WCH 2007; 2 WJC 2008 (2006-6); 9 OLY 2008. At WXC: 2006-50 short, 2007-5J In 2008: 2 Ugandan junior XC; 4 WXC-j; 4 Doha; 2 Hengelo; 2 WJC; 9 OLY					
<b>KIPROTICH Wesley</b> KEN	<b>29y</b>	36d	1979	<b>8:14.52</b>	<b>8:05.68 -04</b>
2 COM 2006 In 2008: 1 Madrid; 5 Athens; 6 Paris Golden League; 2 Stockholm; 2 Monaco; 4 Zurich Golden League					
<b>KIPRUTO Brimin</b> KEN	<b>23y</b>	37d	1985	<b>8:10.34</b>	<b>8:02.89 -07</b>
2008 Olympic & 2007 World Champion ... 2004 Olympic silver ... 2005 World bronze 1500 pb: 3:35.23 -06. 2 World Youth 2000SC 2001; 3 WJC 1500 2004; 1 WCH 2007 (2005-3); 1 OLY 2008 (2004-2). At WXC: 2005-37 short, 2006-18 short In 2008: 5 Doha; 4 Hengelo; 1 Rabat; 2 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 1 Rome Golden League					
<b>KIPYEGO Mike</b> KEN	<b>24y</b>	339d	1983	<b>8:09.05</b>	<b>8:09.05 -08</b>
2002 World Junior Steeplechase Champion ... 8 World Youth 3000 99; 2 African junior 2001; 1 WJC 2002; ht WCH 2003; 2 African champs 2008. At WXC: 2002-12J, 2003-4 short, 2007-6. Full name-Michael Kipkorir Arap Kipyego In 2008: 2 Kenyan African Championship Trial; 2 African Champs; 3 Doha; 6 Hengelo; 5 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 2 Paris Golden League; 1 Stockholm; 4 Monaco; 3 Zurich Golden League (set pb)					
<b>KOECH Paul Kipsiele</b> KEN	<b>26y</b>	300d	1981	<b>8:01.85</b>	<b>7:56.37 -05</b>
World #2 at 3000m Steeplechase in 2006 after Saif Saaeed Shaheen ... 3000 pb: 7:33.93 -05. 5000 pb: 13:11.26 -05. 1500 pb: 3:37.92 -07. 2 African Games 2003; 3 OLY 2004; 7 WCH 2005; 1 African Champs 2006; 2 WCP 2006; 2 WIC 3000 2008. Not to be confused with two other (older) Kenyan athletes of the same name of Paul Koech ... youngest of eight sons ... wife-Irene Koech In 2008: 2 Birmingham 2M; 2 WIC 3000; 7 Doha 3000; 1 New York; 3 Eugene 2M; 4 Kenyan Olympic Trials (just 0.09 behind third place); 1 Heusden; 1 Zurich Golden League					
<b>KOSGEI Collins</b> KEN	<b>22y</b>	33d	1986	<b>8:13.87</b>	<b>8:13.87 -08</b>
5000 pb: 13:53.23 -08 In 2008: 2 Sydney; 2 Australian; 2 Doha; 1 European Clubs Cup 5000/3000SC; 3 Belgrade 5000; 6 Rabat; 9 Athens; 9 Paris Golden League; 5 Stockholm; 7 Monaco; dnf Gateshead 3000					
<b>KOSGEI James</b> KEN	<b>23/24y</b>		1984	<b>8:32.77</b>	<b>8:13.66 -07</b>
PACEMAKER 1 In 2008: 1 Rehlingen; 8 Neerpelt; 2 Turkish Clubs 5000/3000SC; dnf Athens; 10 Monaco; paced Zurich Golden League					
<b>LANGAT Patrick</b> KEN	<b>19y</b>	137d	1989	<b>8:19.13</b>	<b>8:19.13 -08</b>
5000 pb: 13:45.21 -06 In 2008: 6 Kenyan African Championship Trial; 2 São Paulo 5000; 1 Belém; 2 Prague; 1 Kenyan; 6 Kenyan Olympic Trials; 4 Rome Golden League; 7 Athens; 7 Stockholm					
<b>MESFIN Nahom</b> ETH	<b>19y</b>	95d	1989	<b>8:14.68</b>	<b>8:14.68 -08</b>
2007 World finalist ... Ethiopian junior record holder ... full name Nahom Mesfin Tariku 2 African junior 2005; 5 WJC 2006; 3 African Games 2007; ht OLY 2008 In 2008: 4 African Champs; 1 Neerpelt; 2 Lapua; 1 Huelva; 5ht OLY					

**MOHAMED Mustafa** SWE

**29y** 189d 1979 **8:11.10** **8:05.75 -07**

World & Olympic steeplechase finalist; fourth in Gothenburg 2006 & Osaka 2007 where he was the first non-Kenyan  
2 EJC 10,000 97; 8 WJC 98; 4 ECH 2006; 4 WCH 2007 (2003-ht, 2005-10); 10 OLY 3000SC 2008 (2004-13). At WXC: 98-54J, 2007-28. At  
EXC: 97-3J, 98-8J, 2000-73, 2002-59, 2003-20, 2004-22, 2005-14, 2006-3, 2007-2. 1 Swedish 3000SC 2002/2003/2008 (1 5000 2007).  
Former footballer ... mother-Somalian; stepfather-Swedish who was aid worker in Somalia ... brother Ahmed is an international  
steeplechaser ... born-Mogadishu ... coach-Ulf Friberg  
In 2008: 1 Swedish long course XC (3 short); 3 Manchester 10K; 10 Zaragoza 3000; 7 Kassel 5000; 2 ECP 1st League; 9 Gothenburg  
1500; 3 Paris Golden League; 3 Stockholm; 1 Swedish; 10 OLY; 7 Zurich Golden League

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**SZYMKOWIAK Tomasz** POL

**25y** 63d 1983 **8:22.20** **8:22.20 -08**

7 under-23 ECH 2005; ht ECH 2006; 6 WSG 2007; 3 ECP 2008; ht OLY 2008. 1 Polish 2006/2007/2008  
In 2008: 1 Kozenice; 3 Neerpelt; 3 Moscow Open; 6 Warsaw 1500; 5 ECP; 5 Sopot 3000; 1 Polish; 9 Monaco; 7ht OLY

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**TAHER Tareq Mubarak** BRN

**21y** 279d 1986 **8:08.53** **8:07.12 -07**

PACEMAKER 2

TRANSFEREE – Formerly: Dennis Kipkurui Keter KEN ... 2000SC pb: 5:23.95 -05. dq World Youth 2005 (originally 1st); 15 WCH 2005; 11  
WIC 3000 2006; dq WJC 2006 (originally 2nd); 8 WCP 3000 2006; 8 WCH 3000SC 2007; 11 OLY 3000SC 2008. At WXC: 2005-9, 2006-dq  
(originally 19th)  
In March 2007 the IAAF reported: "After an extensive investigation by the IAAF, fully supported by the Kenyan government, it has emerged  
that the athlete falsified a birth certificate in order to obtain a Kenyan passport listing his birthday as 1 Dec 1989, when his real date of birth  
was 1 Dec 1986." Therefore he was over-age when he competed at the 2005 World Youth Championships, 2006 World Junior Cross  
Country Championships and 2006 World Junior Championships, the IAAF have officially annulled these "junior" performances  
In 2008: 13 Rabat; 3 Rome Golden League; 2 Athens; 1 Paris Golden League; dnf Heusden; 11 OLY; paced Zurich Golden League

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**TAHRI Bouabdellah** FRA

**29y** 260d 1978 **8:12.72** **8:06.91 -03**

(Familiar name – "Bob") ... 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th in World/Olympic steeplechase finals  
5000 pb: 13:12.29 -07. 1500 pb: 3:34.85 -02. 1 EJC 5000 97; 1 ECP 3000SC 2000/2001/2002/2004 (1 3000 flat 2007); 11 WIC 3000 2001;  
4 WCH 3000SC 2003 (99-12, 2001/2007-5, 2005-8); 2 ECP 5000 2005; 3 ECH 3000SC 2006 (98-10, 2002-4); 3 WCP 3000SC 2006; 2 EIC  
3000 2007 (98-8); 1 ECP 3000 2007 (2007-8); 5 OLY 3000SC 2008 (2000-ht, 2004-7). At WXC: 97-22J (1st European), 2004-15 short,  
2005-dnf long. At EXC: 2005-4. Hs parents were Algerian ... coach-Jean-Michel Dirringer (same as Mehdi Baala)  
In 2008: dnf Ostrava 5000; 4 ECP 3000; 4 Lille 1500; 1 Metz 1500; 4 Paris Golden League 3000SC; 5 OLY 3000SC; 5 Zurich Golden  
League 3000SC; 8 Lausanne 1500

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**VAN KOOLWYK Krijn** BEL

**27y** 7d 1981 **8:20.32** **8:17.11 -05**

ht WCH 3000SC 2005/2007. At WXC: 2000-73J, 2004-85 long. At EXC: 2000-53J, 2004-40, 2005-58, 2008-21. 1 Belgian junior XC 2000  
In 2008: 10 Montgeron 3000; 14 Hengelo; 4 ECP 1st League 3000; 4 Heusden

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's 400 Metres Hurdles

21:22

Golden League Event



2008 World Best:	47.25	Angelo Taylor USA	Beijing	18 Aug 08
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		Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
<b>1,</b>	<b>CILLIERS Ockert</b> RSA	<b>27y</b>	<b>138d</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>49.18</b>	<b>48.02 -04</b>
	2000 World Junior bronze ... 3 WJC 2000; 3 African Champs 2004 (2008-4); sf OLY 2004. 1 South African 2004 ... 1.86 tall In 2008: 1 Potchefstroom; 3 Durban; 3 Germiston; 3 Pretoria; 3 South African; 4 African Champs (1 4x400); 2 Rio de Janeiro; 4 Belém; 1 Turkish Clubs; 7 Cottbus; 1 Prague; 3 Istanbul (Jun 28); 3 Bydgoszcz; 1 Istanbul (Jul 5); 1 Reims; 1 Uden; 2 Brasschaat; 1 Karlstad					
<b>2,</b>	<b>BUCKLEY Markino</b> JAM	<b>22y</b>	<b>143d</b>	<b>1986</b>	<b>48.50</b>	<b>48.50 -08</b>
	2008 Olympic finalist ... had not bettered 52 seconds before 2007 2 Central American junior 2004; sf WJC 2004; dnf ht WCH 2007; 7 OLY 2008 In 2008: 1 Spanish Town; 6 Kingston; 1 Mt SAC Relays 'B'; 1 Fort-de-France; 3 Rio de Janeiro; 2 Belém; 3 Jamaican; 6 Rome Golden League; 3 London Grand Prix; 7 OLY; 8 Zurich Golden League; 3 Gateshead					
<b>3,</b>	<b>VAN ZYL LJ</b> RSA	<b>23y</b>	<b>48d</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>48.22</b>	<b>48.05 -06</b>
	2006 Commonwealth Games & twice African Champion ... 3 World Youth Medley Relay 2001; 1 WJC 2002 (2004-4); 2 WJC 4x400 2004; 6 WCH 2005 (2007-ht); 1 COM 2006; 1 African Champs 2006/2008; 2 WCP 2006; 1 African Games 2007; 5 OLY 2008. 1 South African junior 2002/2003. 1 South African 2003/2005/2006/2008 ... superstition-hangs his running vest above his bed before a race ... actual first names are Louis Jacobus ... studying Human Movement Science at the University of Pretoria In 2008: 3 Potchefstroom 400; 2 Durban; 4 Germiston; 1 South African; 1 South African Universities; 1 African Champs (1 4x400); 1 Doha; 4 Berlin Golden League; 3 Oslo Golden League; 4 Rome Golden League; 1 Athens; 5 Paris Golden League; 5 OLY; 5 Zurich Golden League					
<b>4,</b>	<b>MCFARLANE Danny</b> JAM	<b>36y</b>	<b>83d</b>	<b>1972</b>	<b>48.30</b>	<b>48.00 -04</b>
	2004 Olympic silver ... five successive World relay medals ... 400 pb: 44.90 -95. sf COM 400 94; sf WCH 400 95/99; 2 WCH 4x400 95 (97/99/2001/2003-3); 1 Central American 400 97/2001; 1 Pan-Am Games 4x400 99; 8 OLY 400 2000 (3 4x400); 3 WIC 4x400 2001; 4 WCH 400H 2003 (2005-sf, 2007-5); 2 OLY 400H 2004 (2004-4). 1 Jamaican 400H 2003/2004/2006/2007/2008. He's the only athlete since 1936 to have competed in Olympic finals at both 400m hurdles (2004) and flat (2000) ... lives-Norman, Oklahoma ... two sons Sway (5) & Will (1) In 2008: 1 Norman (Apr 12); 2 Kingston (May 3); 2 Doha; 1 Ponce; 2 New York; 2 Oslo Golden League; 1 Jamaican; 3 Rome Golden League; 2 Athens; 2 Paris Golden League; 1 Monaco; 4 OLY (set world over-35 best 48.30); 3 Zurich Golden League; 1 Padua					
<b>5,</b>	<b>CLEMENT Kerron</b> USA	<b>22y</b>	<b>310d</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>47.79</b>	<b>47.24 -05</b>
	2008 Olympic silver ... 2007 World Champion despite stuttering before several of the hurdles ... he had the world's fastest time in 2005, 2006 & 2007 110H pb: 13.78 -04. 400 pb: 44.48 -07. 1 WJC 400/4x400 2004; 1 WCH 2007 (2004-4); 2 OLY 2008 (ran in heat of 4x400, so awarded gold won by USA in final). 1 US 2005/2006. 1 NCAA 2004/2005. Broke Michael Johnson's world indoor record at 400m with 44.57 in 2005. Born and grew up in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, moved to Texas in 1998 ... student of Business at the University of Florida ... began as a cross country runner ... ideal stride pattern: 13 all the way ... coach-Bobby Kersee In 2008: 1 Kingston; 4 Carson; 1 New York; 7 Eugene; 2 US Olympic Trials; 1 Rome Golden League; 1 Paris Golden League; 6 Stockholm 400; 1 London Grand Prix; 2 OLY; 2 Zurich Golden League					
<b>6,</b>	<b>PLAWGO Marek</b> POL	<b>27y</b>	<b>193d</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>48.52</b>	<b>48.12 -07</b>
	Twice sixth in Olympic finals ... Two bronzes from Osaka 2007 ... 2006 European silver ... 2002 European Indoor Champion at 400m 400 pb: 45.35 -02. 4 EJC 99; 1 WJC 2000 (3 4x400); 2 ECP 2001/2005/2007 (3 400 flat 2002); sf WCH 2001; 8 WSG 2001; 1 EIC 400/4x400 2002; 4 ECH 400 2002; 1 under-23 ECH 400/4x400 2003; 6 OLY 2004/2008; 2 ECH 2006; 3 WCP 2006; 3 WCH 400H/4x400 2007. 1 Polish 2003/2005/2006/2007/2008 ... his first love was basketball but they didn't do it at his school so he turned to athletics ... lifelong coach-Jan Widera In 2008: 3 Berlin Golden League; 4 Oslo Golden League; 2 ECP; 1 Bydgoszcz; 1 Polish; 4 London Grand Prix; 2 Monaco; 6 OLY; 4 Zurich Golden League; 1 Gateshead					
<b>7,</b>	<b>PHILLIPS Isa</b> JAM	<b>24y</b>	<b>136d</b>	<b>1984</b>	<b>48.78</b>	<b>48.51 -07</b>
	2007 US Collegiate Champion ... 400 flat pb: 48.65 -07. sf World Youth 2001; 2 Pan-Am junior 2003; sf WCH 2007; sf OLY 2008. 1 NCAA 2007. Was a student of Political Science at Louisiana State University ... 1.96 tall In 2008: 6 Kingston; 3 Doha; 1 Dakar; 3 Belém; 2 Jamaican; 1 Central American & Caribbean Champs; 5 Rome Golden League; 1 Lucerne 'B'; 5sf OLY; 6 Zurich Golden League					
<b>8,</b>	<b>WILLIAMS Jonathan</b> BIZ	<b>25y</b>	<b>8d</b>	<b>1983</b>	<b>49.42</b>	<b>48.88 -07</b>
	Belize record holder at 400m flat, hurdles & 800m ... 400 pb: 47.62 -07. 800 pb: 1:52.33 -08. 6 Central American & Caribbean Games 2006; 1 Central American 2007; 2 North & Central American & Caribbean 2007; sf WCH 2007; sf OLY 2008 In 2008: 1 Walnut 200 (3 800); 3 California Relays 800; 3 Fresno 200; 1 Claremont; 5 Westwood 200; 3 Mt SAC Relays; 3 Los Angeles 200; 5 Doha; 5 Ponce; 1 Eagle Rock; 6sf OLY; 2 Padua					
<b>9,</b>	<b>MYBURGH Alwyn</b> RSA	<b>27y</b>	<b>327d</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>48.92</b>	<b>48.09 -01</b>
	2004 Olympic finalist ... 2006 Commonwealth Games & African silvers 400 pb: 46.28 -04 (46.49 -08). 1 African Junior 99; sf WCH 2001/2003 (dnf ht 2007); 1 WSG 2001; 7 OLY 2004 (2000/2008-sf); 2 COM 2006; 2 African Champs 2006; 3 African Games 2007. 1 South African 2007. Broke his elbow during a training session at the end of June but returned to reach the Olympic final ... his parents won 17 national titles between them in the seventies: father-Hugo in the 400, mother Hybre-in Hurdles, HJ & Pentathlon ... trains with LJ van Zyl In 2008: 1 Secunda 400; 3 Durban 400; 1 Potchefstroom; 2 Germiston; 2 Pretoria; 4 Bydgoszcz; 1 Madrid; 1 Sollentuna; 1 Uden 400; 2 Lucerne; 5sf OLY					

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's Long Jump

19:50

Golden League Event



2008 World Best: 8.73 Irving Saladino PAN Hengelo 24 May 08

		Age	(Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
1,	<b>VELTER Michael</b> BEL	28y	168d	1980	7.74	7.95 -06
	Belgian triple jump record holder indoor & out ... TJ pb: 17.00 -06 (16.20 -08). dnq ECH TJ 2002/2006; 8 EIC TJ 2005 (2007-dnq); dnq WCH TJ 2005; 8 ECP LJ/TJ 2008. 1 Belgian TJ 2002-2004 (1 LJ 2006/2008). Served three-month doping suspension in 2006 In 2008: 1 Kessel-Lo LJ/TJ; 3 ECP 1st League TJ; 1 Nivelles LJ; 1 Belgian LJ; 1 Kortrijk LJ; 1 Brussels TJ; 2 Liège TJ; 1 Ninove LJ					
2,	<b>BAYER Sebastian</b> GER	22y	87d	1986	8.15	8.15 -08
	Twice German Champion ... dnq WJC 2004; 2 EJC 2005; dnq ECH 2006; dnq OLY 2008. 1 German 2006/2008 In 2008: 4 Garbsen; 5 Dessau; 3 Bad Langensalza; 2 Rheinau-Freistett; 6 Wesel; 1 German; 3 Leverkusen; dnq OLY; 3 Zurich Golden League					
3,	<b>SDIRI Salim</b> FRA	29y	315d	1978	8.21	8.25 -05
	(Sdiri Pronounced "Say-diri") ... 2004 Olympic finalist ... TJ pb: 16.10 -00. 7 ECH 2002 (2006-10); 7 WIC 2003; 2 ECP 2004/2005/2006 (2002-3, 2007-5); 12 OLY 2004 (2008-dnq); 5 WCH 2005 (2003-dnq); 5 WCP 2006. 1 French 2003/2004/2005/2006/2008. He was struck by a stray javelin at the Rome Golden Gala on July 17, 2007. The javelin slightly tore his right kidney and touched his liver ... born-Ajaccio, Corsica ... coach-Danielle Desmier  At home in Montargies, his collection of reptiles includes 15 chameleons, two pythons and two boa constrictors (as at July 2008)  In 2008: 2 French indoor; dnq WIC; 1 Chartres; 1 Pierre-Bénite; 5 Reims; 8 Paris Golden League; 1 French; dnq OLY					
4,	<b>NOVOTNY Roman</b> CZE	22y	244d	1986	8.21	8.21 -08
	2008 Olympic Long Jump finalist ... TJ pb: 15.49 -05. HJ pb: 2.15i -05. 7 World Youth LJ 2003; dnq EJC HJ 2005; 8 OLY LJ 2008. 1 Czech junior HJ/LJ 2005. 1 Czech under-23 HJ/LJ/TJ 2006. 1 Czech LJ 2008 In 2008: 1 Czech Universities indoor 60/LJ; 1 Czech indoor LJ/TJ; 4 Aubière LJ; 2 Schwechat LJ; 1 Brno LJ; 7 Hengelo LJ; 1 Ostrava LJ (6 TJ) (May 31); 1 Prague LJ (9 TJ) (Jun 7); 3 Prague LJ; 3 ECP 1st League LJ; 1 Kladno LJ (2 HJ, 4 TJ); 1 Czech LJ; 5 Thessaloniki LJ; 6 Rome Golden League LJ; 4 Barcelona LJ; 1 Brno LJ; 1 FRA v CZE v ESP under-23; 8 OLY LJ; 6 Zurich Golden League LJ; 5 Gateshead LJ					
5,	<b>QUINLEY Trevell</b> USA	25y	233d	1983	8.36	8.36 -08
	2008 US Olympic Trials winner ... fouled out in 2007 World final ... HJ pb: 2.15 -04. 3 WJC 2002; nm WCH final 2007; dnq OLY 2008. 2 NCAA indoor 2005; 1 US 2008 & indoor 2007/2008 ... graduate in Economics from Arizona State University ... his younger sister Shevell iwass third in the 2008 NCAA indoor Pentathlon ... lives-San Diego ... coach-Mike Powell ... 1.98 tall In 2008: 1 US indoor; 1 Modesto; 7 Zaragoza; 1 Chula Vista; 1 US Olympic Trials ("Being predicted to take fourth, it definitely lit a fire under me"); 10 Rome Golden League; 14 Athens; dnq OLY; 7 Zurich Golden League					
6,	<b>PATE Miguel</b> USA	29y	85d	1979	8.24	8.46 -03
	2003 World Indoor bronze ... 8.39w -08. TJ pb: 16.48 -01. HJ pb: 2.18i -00. 4 WCH 2001 (2005-dnq, 2007-10); 1 WSG 2001; 3 WIC 2003; dnq OLY 2008. 1 US indoor 2002; 1 NCAA indoor 2002. Studied Criminal Justice at University of Alabama ... ruptured left knee in 2003 ... coach-Rod Tiffin In 2008: 1 Baton Rouge; 3 Fort-de-France; 3 Hengelo; 6 Berlin Golden League; 4 Oslo Golden League; 3 US Olympic Trials (he kept out defending Olympic Champion Dwight Phillips who was fourth); 9 Rome Golden League; 4 Paris Golden League; dnq OLY; 1 Gateshead					
7,	<b>MELIZ Luis Felipe</b> ESP	29y	26d	1979	8.15	8.43 -00
	Seventh in Sydney 2000 for Cuba, seventh again in Beijing 2008 for Spain 3 WJC 98; 2 WSG 99; 7 OLY 2000/2008; 4 WIC 2003 (2001-9, 2004-dnd); 2 Pan Am Games 2003 (99-3); 11 WCH 2003 (99/2001-dnq). 1 Spanish 2008. Had same coach as Pedrosa, he has not competed for Cuba since 2004 In 2008: 3 Spanish indoor; 1 La Laguna; 1 Castellón; 1 Avilés; 4 Salamanca; 2 Reims; 2 Barcelona; 1 Spanish; 7 OLY; 4 Zurich Golden League					
8,	<b>BADJI Ndiss Kaba</b> SEN	24y	350d	1983	8.16	8.20 -04
	Sixth in 2008 Olympic Long Jump, seventh at 2007 Worlds ... 2008 African Champion at Triple Jump 8.30w -04. TJ pb: 17.07 -08. 2 African junior TJ 2001 (4 LJ); 9 WJC TJ 2002 (dnq LJ); 5 WSG LJ 2003; 2 African Games LJ 2003 (4 TJ); 2 Afro-Asian Games LJ 2003 (5 TJ); dnq OLY TJ 2004/2008; 1 African Games TJ 2007; 7 WCH LJ 2007; 1 African Champs TJ 2008 (2004 -2); 6 OLY LJ 2008 ... doping suspension 2005-2007 ... based-Dakar ... 1.93 tall In 2008: 1 African Champs TJ; 2 Dakar TJ; 3 Athens TJ; 6 Barcelona LJ; 9 Monaco TJ; 6 OLY LJ (dnq TJ); 11 Lausanne TJ					
9,	<b>AL-SABEE Hussein Taher</b> KSA	28y	296d	1979	8.35	8.35 -04/08
	Twice Asian Games Champion ... 8.41w -04. 1 Arab 97/99/2003; 1 Asian Champs 2000/2002/2003; 11 WIC 2001 (2008-dnq); 4 WCP 2002; 1 Asian Games 2002/2006; 5 WCH 2003 (99-12, 2001-10, 2007-11); 11 OLY 2008 (2000-dnq) ... youngest of five brothers, two more are athletes ... his first sport was basketball ... coach-Hamid-Sahil ... 1.87 tall In 2008: 3 Asian Indoor Champs; dnq WIC; 2 Riyadh; 1 Berlin Golden League; 1 Oslo Golden League; 1 Prague; 3 Rome Golden League; 2 Paris Golden League; 11 OLY (7.80); 1 Zurich Golden League (pb 8.35)					

# Belgacom Memorial Van Damme 2008 • Biographical Summaries • Men

## Men's Javelin Throw

20:00

Golden League Event



2008 World Best:	90.57	Andreas Thorkildsen NOR	Beijing	23 Aug 08
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		Age (Days)	Born	Season's Best	Personal Best
1,	<b>GOYVAERTS Tom</b> BEL	24y	169d 1984	<b>79.65</b>	<b>79.65 -08</b>
	9 EJC 2003; 7 ECP 2007. 1 Belgian 2007/2008 ... 2.00/91kg In 2008: 1 Hulst; 1 Flemish; 5 Halle; 7 Dessau; 2 Kessel-Lo; 8 Moscow Open; 7 Zhukovskiy; 1 Belgian; 1 Kortrijk; 2 Ghent; 2 Heusden; 1 Brasschaat; 1 Ninove; 5 Merksem				
2,	<b>MAKAROV Sergey</b> RUS	35y	171d 1973	<b>86.88</b>	<b>92.61 -02</b>
	World Champion & World #1 in 2003 ... twice Olympic bronze ... threw 92.61 in Sheffield 2002 for 3rd on world all-time list 1 Goodwill Games 98; 1 ECP 2000/2002/2003 (96/98/99/2001/2006-2, 97-4); 3 OLY 2000/2004 (96-6, 2008-dnq); 2 ECH 2002 (98-4); 1 WCP 2002 (98-2); 1 WCH 2003 (97-5, 99-9, 2001-7, 2005-3, 2007-dnq). 1 Russian 96/97/2001/2003/2005/2006/2007/2008 ... wife Oksana was Russian women's javelin record holder, but out of action in 2001/2002 with shoulder surgery ... father (Aleksandr Makarov) won 1980 Olympic javelin silver ... won 15/17 contests in 2002 & 9/11 in 2003 ... 1.90/102kg In 2008: 2 Dessau; 4 Oslo Golden League; 1 Moscow Open; 2 Zhukovskiy; 1 Kuortane (Jul 6 – beat Pitkämäki); 1 Russian (8th time); dnq OLY; 6 Zurich Golden League				
3,	<b>RAGS Eriks</b> LAT	33y	97d 1975	<b>85.05</b>	<b>86.47 -01</b>
	(Rags pronounced "Rax") ... twice World Student Games Champion ... Latvian record holder 4 under-23 ECH 97; 6 WSG 97; 1 WSG 99/2001 (97-6); 4 ECH 2002 (2006-9); 7 OLY 2004 (2000/2008-dnq); 6 WCH 2005 (97/2003-dnq, 99-10, 2001-8, 2007-11). 1 Latvian 97/99/2000/2001/2002/2003/2006 ... won accuracy throwing contest at 2000 Stockholm Grand Prix ... coach-Maris Griva ... 1.84/95kg In 2008: 4 Doha; 1 Ventspils; 1 Tallinn; 1 Ventspils; 1 Gothenburg; 1 Lugano; 3 Rome Golden League; 1 Athens; 2 Stockholm; 1 Karlstad; dnq OLY; 8 Zurich Golden League				
4,	<b>KOROTKOV Ilya</b> RUS	24y	274d 1983	<b>84.04</b>	<b>84.04 -08</b>
	9 under-23 ECH 2005; 6 WSG 2007; 7 OLY 2008 ... coaches-Ivan Koptiukh & Mikhail Sadov ... 1.92/101kg In 2008: 2 Adler; 1 European Throws Cup; 5 Doha; 1 European Clubs Cup ; 1 Belgrade; 2 Russian; 7 OLY; 5 Zurich Golden League				
5,	<b>VASILEVSKIS Vadims</b> LAT	26y	244d 1982	<b>85.97</b>	<b>90.73 -07</b>
	2004 Olympic silver, when he set personal bests in qualifying & final 8 WJC 2000; 7 EJC 2001; dnq ECH 2002; 7 under-23 ECH 2003; 2 World Military 2003; 2 OLY 2004 (2008-9); 4 ECH 2006; 1 WSG 2007; 4 WCH 2007 (2005-dnq) ... coach-Valentina Eiduka ... his second sport is mountain biking ... has two younger sisters (Jana & Dana) who were javelin throwers ... 1.88/102kg In 2008: 2 Ventspils; 1 Zhukovskiy; 6 Rome Golden League; 3 Athens; 1 Paris Golden League; 9 OLY; 4 Zurich Golden League				
6,	<b>WIRKALA Teemu</b> FIN	24y	235d 1984	<b>84.10</b>	<b>84.10 -08</b>
	Former World Youth & European Junior Champion ... 1 World Youth 2001; 7 WJC 2003; 1 EJC 2003; 6 under-23 ECH 2005; dnq ECH 2006; 12 WCH 2007; 5 OLY 2008. Coach-Hannu Kangas ...1.87/89kg In 2008: 4 Kuortane (May 25); 9 Berlin Golden League; 6 Oslo Golden League; 1 Tampere; 2 Pihitupas; 5 Kuortane (Jul 6); 9 Rome Golden League; 5 Finnish; 3 Lappeenranta; 5 OLY				
7,	<b>KOVALS Ainars</b> LAT	26y	289d 1981	<b>86.64</b>	<b>86.64 -08</b>
	Surprise Olympic silver medallist in 2008 ... 4 under-23 ECH 2001 (2003-6); 7 WCH 2005 (2007-dnq); 1 WSG 2005 (2007-3); 5 ECH 2006; 2 OLY 2008. 1 Latvian 2005/2007 ... 1.92/110kg In 2008: 1 Latvian Universities; 13 Halle; 1 Kalamata; 1 ECP 2nd League; 1 Valmiera; 2 OLY				
8,	<b>PITKÄMÄKI Tero</b> FIN	25y	261d 1982	<b>87.70</b>	<b>91.53 -05</b>
	2007 World Champion & 2008 Olympic bronze ... dnq WJC 2000; 6 EJC 2001; 3 under-23 ECH 2003; 1 ECP 2006; 2 ECH 2006; 1 WCH 2007 (2005-4); 3 OLY 2008 (2004-8). 1 Finnish 2004/2005/2006/2007 ... graduate of electrical engineering at Vaasa Polytechnic school ... ex-cross country skier, he was fifth in the Finnish Championships at age 14 ... coach-Hannu Kangas ... partner is heptathlete Niina Kelo (15 ECH Heptathlon 2006) ... he says he'll continue competing to 2020 ... 1.95/92kg In 2008: 2 Kuortane (May 25); 1 Berlin Golden League (beat Thorkildsen by 1cm); 3 Oslo Golden League; 1 Pihitupas; 2 Kuortane (Jul 6); 1 Rome Golden League; 1 Joensuu; 1 Lapinlahti; 2 Finnish; 1 Lappeenranta; 3 OLY; 2 Zurich Golden League; 2 FIN v SWE				
9,	<b>THORKILDSEN Andreas</b> NOR	26y	158d 1982	<b>90.57</b>	<b>91.59 -06</b>
	In Beijing 2008 became the first Norwegian to retain an Olympic title in athletics 1 European Youth 99; 2 WJC 2000; 2 EJC 2001 (99-7); 4 under-23 ECH 2003; 1 OLY 2004/2008; 2 WCH 2005/2007 (2001-dnq, 2003-11); 1 ECH 2006 (2002-dnq); 1 WCP 2006. 1 Norwegian 2001/2003/2004/2005/2006. Played soccer to age 16, then concentrated on javelin throwing ... father-Tomm was a 10.7 100 sprinter, mother-Bente Amundsen was Norwegian 100H champion ... coach-Åsmund Martinsen ... 1.88/90kg In 2008: 1 Doha; 2 Berlin Golden League (1 cm behind Pitkämäki); 1 Oslo Golden League; 1 ECP 1st League; 4 Rome Golden League; 1 Stockholm; 1 OLY (90.57); 1 Zurich Golden League (90.28)				