

Saturday's Breaking News From The Track

Contributed by Liam Horan in Wurzburg
Sunday, 07 September 2008

Today (SATURDAY) is the final day of events, and all eyes turn to the track and field. Throughout today, we will be updating here with details of how the Irish team are getting on.

James Nolan, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare

Category: Super Senior

Early-morning start for James, but the Kilcullen man was in fine fettle to produce another excellent run - earning him the silver medal in the 800m. You can see quite a few track pix of James in the gallery, and you'll notice the determination on his face when he's in the zone. Later in the day, he added the bronze medal in the 200m.

By the way, now that we've got your attention: have YOU got a donor card?

Darren Cawley, Westport, Co. Mayo

Category: Senior

This man has been one of the stars of the track at these Games. This morning, he added a gold medal in the 200m to his haul from yesterday. It was a closely-fought contest, with Darren kicking off the final bend to capture the gold. A great moment for the Irish contingent gathered trackside.

Meant to tell you yesterday about the UK team throwing down the gauntlet. The UK team have a brilliant female athlete, Anna Burnett, a Scot, and yesterday the track was abuzz with talk of a challenge for Darren. Could he, would he, take her on in a 400m race?

It was quite a race. Anna took off all guns blazing, perhaps thinking she had Darren's measure. But the Westport man had his plan clearly hatched, and over the last 300m turned on the after-burners to beat her. Now, you might think, a good male athlete beating a good female athlete - so what?

Well, let me tell you that Anna ran so fast in this race, she took **FOUR SECONDS** off the world record for females in transplant athletics. Well done to both athletes. One of the highlights of Friday at the track.

Marie O'Connor, Lahinch, Co. Clare

Category: Super Senior

You can't keep a good woman down. Despite picking up a slight injury in the Long Jump yesterday, Marie was on the track bright and breezy this morning, and ran superbly to pick up a silver medal in the 200m race.

Paul Donohoe, Doogarry, Co. Cavan

Category: Super Senior

The chairman of the Irish Kidney Association picked up a bronze medal in the 5km race walk, and proved a real crowd-pleaser in a gruelling event.

Women's Relay Team

They give it all they had, and won a silver medal in the 4x100m relay - Sandra Doyle, Rose Dalton, Rachel Eagleton, and Rose Dalton. In the photo gallery you will see a delighted Marie celebrating.

Joe Burke, Bantry, Co. Cork

Category: Super Senior

The Cork man also worked the crowd during the race walk, but never lost his concentration before picking up a silver medal.

If you haven't a donor card, get one today by texting 50050.

Tonight, then, it's off to the gala dinner, an early start in the morning, and home to Dublin Airport.

Arrive: 5.10pm local time

Flight no.: LH4982 (Lufthansa)

See you there!