



## PHOTOS: Bruce Jenner's record-breaking 1976 Olympic decathlon

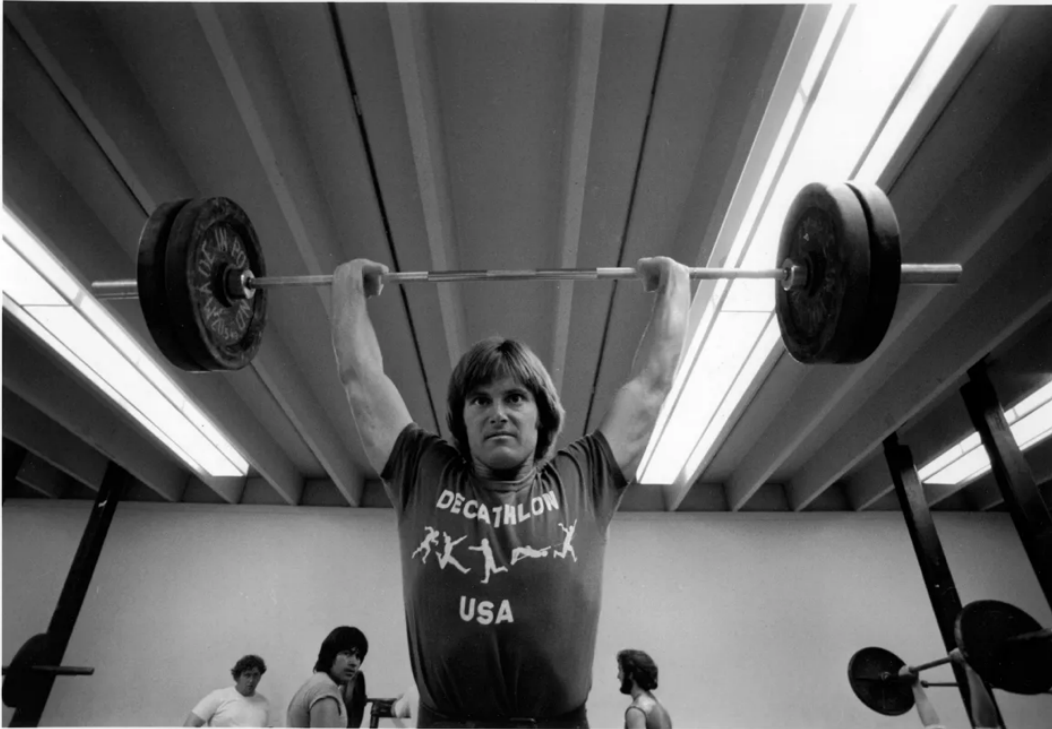


By NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Staff@nydailynews.com

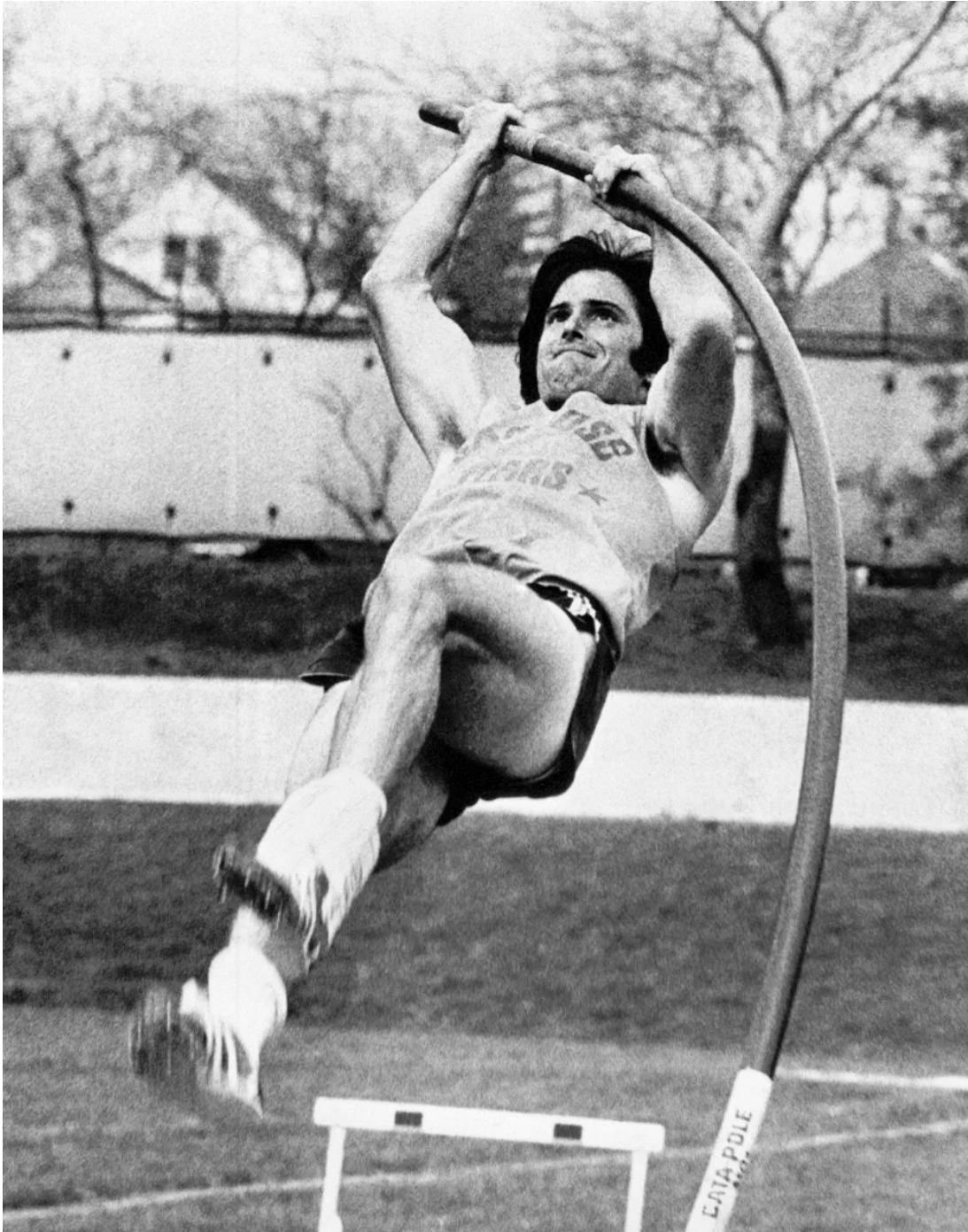
By NEW YORK DAILY NEWS | [Staff@nydailynews.com](mailto:Staff@nydailynews.com)

UPDATED: July 30, 2024 at 9:09 a.m.

On July 30, 1976, Bruce Jenner, now known as Caitlyn Jenner, crossed the finish line during the last event of the decathlon to take home the gold medal at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal. On the 48th anniversary of his historic win, the Daily News takes a look back at the record-breaking event.



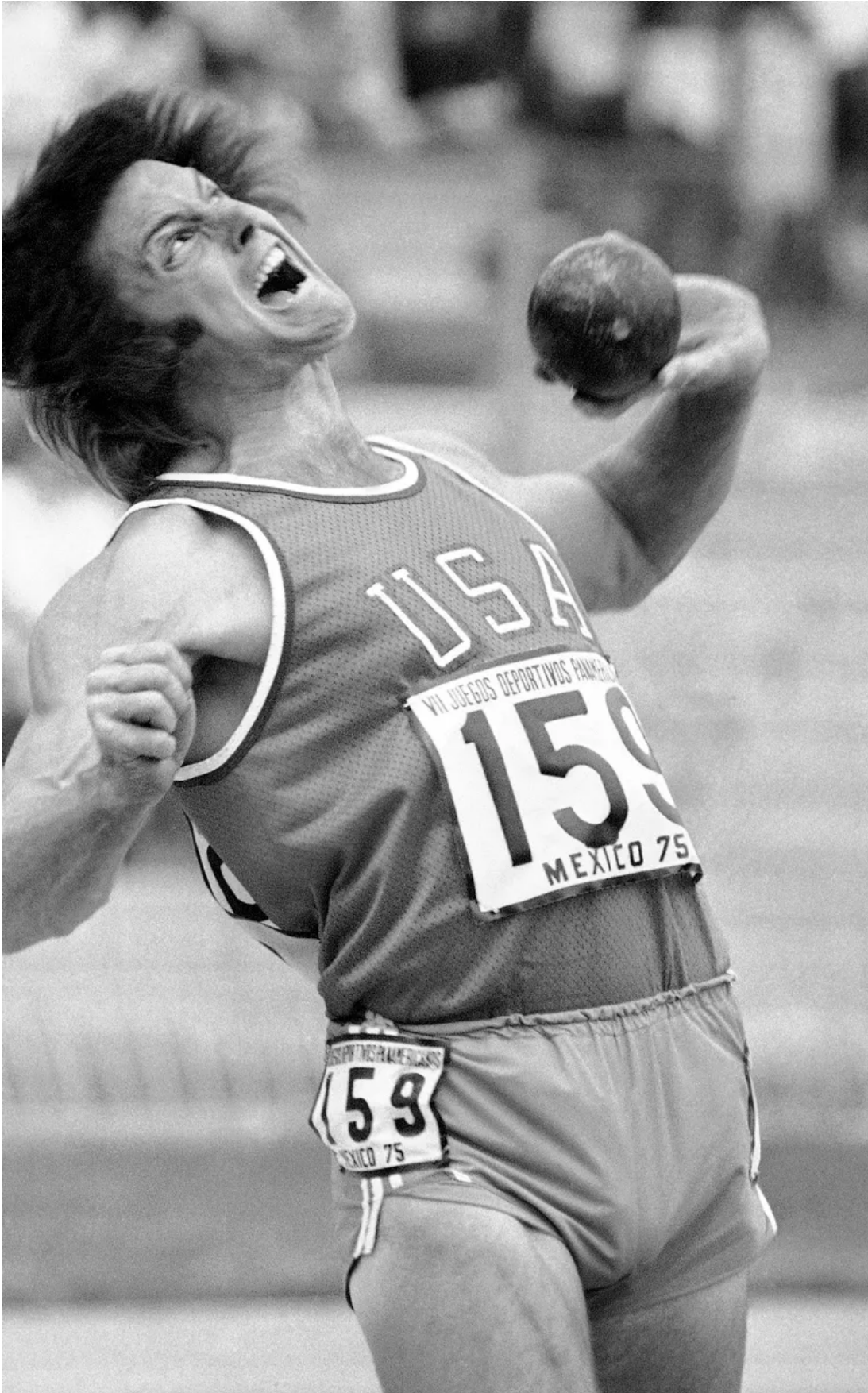
After coming in tenth place in the decathlon event at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, Jenner decided that it was time to take his training to the next level. He trained at least 6 hours a day, every day until the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.



During the four years of training, Jenner also participated in other events like the 66th Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa, representing San Jose University. Here, he begins his upward climb in the pole vault during the final day of the competition on April 24, 1975.

---





Prior to the Olympics, Jenner competed in both the French National Championship and the



1975 Pan American Games where he finished in first for both competitions. Here, Jenner throws the shot put during the decathlon at the game in Mexico City on Oct. 11, 1975.

---



During the Olympic trials in 1976, Jenner not only qualified for the team but he also broke the record with 8,538 points in the event. Jenner is all smiles here as he trains around the clock for the 1976 summer games.

---



Leading off the ten events in a decathlon is the 100-meter dash where Jenner got her personal best with a time of 10.94 seconds giving him 819 points. The next event of the first day was the long jump. Here, Jenner flies through the air as he gets another personal best with a distance of 7.22 meters or 23.69 feet adding another 865 points to his score.





For his third personal best of the day, Jenner threw the shot put 15.35 meters giving him another 809 points to his score.





Executing a flawless jump, Jenner tackled the high jump event with yet another personal best of 2.03 meters. Another 882 points were added to his score before the final event of the day, the 400-meter run. During the 400, Jenner completed it in 47.51 seconds earning 923 but still coming in second for the day behind Guido Kratschmer of West Germany.

---



Determined to keep the momentum going, Jenner returned to the second day of the decathlon to take home gold. The day started right and early with the 110 meter hurdles where Jenner did not break his personal best but finished with an impressive score of 14.84 seconds.

---



Jenner throws his head back with joy after having hurled the discus over 50 meters in the qualifying group one heat for the discus event in the decathlon. Also although not a personal best, throwing the discus over 50 meters landed him 873 points continuing his lead.

---





Time for another personal best! Jenner goes over the bar during the qualifying heat in the pole vault event on the second day. Vaulting 4.80 meters for a total of 1,005 points gave Jenner a healthy lead as he knew he would be up on the podium somewhere granted no massive mistakes.





In the home stretch! The second to last event during the second day of the decathlon was the javelin throw. One of Jenner's best throws got him a personal record of 68.53 meters and further solidified his lead among the other competitors.

---



Although Jenner was the likely winner of the decathlon by the tenth and final event, the world still watched in awe as Jenner took off for the 1,500 meter run. Sprinting the final lap, Jenner got his personal best yet again with a time of 4:12.61.

---



On July 30, 1976, Bruce Jenner, now known as Caitlyn Jenner, crossed the finish line during the last event of the decathlon to take home the gold medal at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal. Today, Jenner has undergone a major transition since her Olympic win, announcing in a two-hour interview with Diane Sawyer saying that she was indeed transgender. Jenner



made her first public appearance with her new identity at the ESPY Awards, where she received the Arthur Ashe Courage Award on July 15, 2015.

---



After the event, Jenner raced over to the stands to hug his wife at the time, Chrystie, who donned a "Go, Jenner, go" shirt. He then grabbed an American flag and carried it with him during his victory lap.

---





Jenner made sure to make his last Olympics his best as he proudly stood on top the number one podium during the award ceremony. Western Germany's Guido Kratschmer came in second while Mykola Avilov of the Soviet Union took third.

---



All smiles here! Jenner throws his arms up in victory as he was awarded the gold medal during the 1976 summer Olympics. Jenner became an American hero as he would later receive the James E. Sullivan Award as the top amateur athlete in the United States as well as being featured on a box of Wheaties.

---

★★★★  
**FINAL****DAILY NEWS**

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER ©

LARGEST  
CIRCULATION  
OF ANY PAPER  
IN AMERICA

40

New York, N.Y. 10017, Saturday, July 31, 1976

# JENNER: WORLD MARK

## *Wins Decathlon With 8,618 Points*



Associated Press Wirephoto  
Second in 1,500 meters, he knows he's golden.



UPI Telephoto

### He Showed His Mettle: Solid Gold

What's missing from Chrystie Jenner's T-shirt? Just two letters—L.D. It should read "GOLD, JENNER, GOLD," because that's the medal Chrystie's husband, Bruce, had just won for the U.S. in the grueling decathlon event of the Olympics at Montreal yesterday. Husband Bruce is getting the appropriate award after settling matters with a second-place finish in the 1,500-meter run. It gave him a world record 8,618 points, eclipsing the mark of 8,454 set by Nikolay Avilov of Russia in 1972.

Story on page 30



UPI Telephoto

Javelin time. Determination time.

## ***Yanks HR Bosox, 6-4; Kooz Stops Phils, 3-2***

Stories on Page 31

The following day, Jenner even made the front page of the New York Daily News with the headline, "Jenner: World Mark, Wins Decathlon with 8,618 points." It featured a photo of Jenner crossing the finish line, hugging his former wife and competing in the javelin event.





After an exciting finish, Jenner spoke at a press conference where he proudly showed off his first-ever gold medal. His impressive world record would later be broken by Daley Thompson in 1980 as Ashton Eaton holds the current record.

*Originally Published: July 30, 2023 at 9:25 a.m.*

## Around the Web

REVCONTENT



### Why Are People Who Sit for a Long Time Rushing to Buy This Cushion?

Hillpert

