

# Ledecky, Phelps cruise to gold-medal finishes

WIRE SERVICE REPORTS

RIO DE JANEIRO — Katie Ledecky of the United States won the women’s Olympic 200-meter freestyle on Tuesday night to claim her second individual gold of the Games and stay on track for a rare triple.

Sarah Sjöstrom of Sweden took the silver medal while Emma McKeon of Australia won bronze.

Ledecky, 19, added to her gold in the 400 freestyle on Sunday and silver in the 4x100 freestyle relay the day before. She reigns supreme in her final individual event, the 800 freestyle, which she won at London in 2012.

She now looks overwhelmingly likely to achieve her goal of three individual golds in the 200, 400 and 800 — a feat not achieved at a single Games since American Debbie Meyer accomplished it in Mexico City in 1968.

“That was a really tough race and it hurt really badly,” Ledecky said. “Pretty sure that’s the closest I’ve come to throwing up in the middle of a race. I’m just so glad I got my hand on the wall first.”

McKeon, a gold medalist in the 4x100 freestyle relay, led at halfway, with Ledecky second and Sjöstrom third.

At the final turn, Ledecky led from Sjöstrom, and the two were matched stroke for stroke as they entered the last 25 meters, but the American pulled ahead to touch the wall in one minute, 53.73 seconds.

Sjöstrom, who won the 100 butterfly on Sunday, clocked 1:54.08 and McKeon 1:54.92.

Michael Phelps kept the U.S. momentum going and seized the 20th Olympic gold medal of a swimming career that keeps on giving with a 200-meter butterfly triumph that avenged his stinging 2012 defeat to South African Chad Le Clos.

Later, Phelps captured his 21st gold medal

when he anchored the U.S. winning 4x200 freestyle relay team. He teamed with Conor Dwyer, Townley Haas and Ryan Lochte for a winning time of 7:00.66.

Phelps has now amassed a record-extending 25 Olympic medals.

With all eyes on a 200-butterfly rematch in Rio, with Phelps in lane five and Le Clos next to him, Japan’s Masato Sakai and Hungary’s Tamas Kenderesi crashed the party to collect silver and bronze.

Defending champion Le Clos, whose run-up to the Games was overshadowed by the devastating news that both of his parents had been diagnosed with cancer, finished an agonizing fourth.

Phelps touched the wall in one minute, 53.36 seconds, slower than his 2012 silver medal performance, with Sakai finishing in 1:53.40.

Le Clos, who clocked 1:52.96 for gold in 2012, could only manage a 1:54.06.

With all eyes on the two big men on the blocks, both avoided eye contact as they waited to step up with the pair standing almost back to back.

The tense atmosphere was cut by shouts from the crowd just as the swimmers were trying to compose themselves, with the start aborted before they had taken racing positions and spectators urged to stay silent.

Le Clos, who won a 200 freestyle silver on Monday, reacted faster than Phelps at the start but it was Hungary’s Laszlo Cseh who led at the turn with Phelps second and Le Clos third.

The American then used his mighty wingspan to forge ahead into clear water.

Cseh began to fade, with Le Clos moving into second at the 150 metre-mark but the South African could not match Phelps in the final lap, with the American punching the air in delight after stepping out.

## U.S. women’s soccer ties but advances

Australia, Canada and France all won on Tuesday and qualified for the quarterfinals of the women’s soccer tournament, where



Medals tally				
Current top 20 by total medals won - After Day 3				
COUNTRY				TOTAL
United States	5	7	7	19
China	5	3	5	13
Japan	3	0	7	10
Russia	2	5	3	10
Italy	3	4	2	9
Australia	4	0	3	7
South Korea	2	2	1	5
Thailand	2	1	1	4
Great Britain	1	1	2	4
Canada	0	1	3	4
Hungary	3	0	0	3
Taiwan	1	0	2	3
Kazakhstan	0	1	2	3
Brazil	1	1	0	2
Sweden	1	1	0	2
Belgium	1	0	1	2
Indonesia	0	2	0	2
New Zealand	0	2	0	2
South Africa	0	2	0	2
Ukraine	0	1	1	2

Note: Some countries tied in 20th position may be excluded from the table.  
Source: Infostrada Staff, 09/08/2016

they will be joined by the United States and Germany as the teams in pursuit of gold move on to the knock-out stage.

U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo had a nightmare and was at fault for both goals — the second an injury time equalizer — as Colombia came from behind to secure a 2-2 draw in Manaus.

She flapped at a cross from Catalina Usme after letting an earlier free kick from the same player squirm through her legs.

The United States, which got a first-half

# Porcello wins 15th as Sox hold off Yanks Cup

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

BOSTON — Dustin Pedroia snapped a slump with two doubles and three RBIs, Rick Porcello tied for the **MAJOR LEAGUES** m a j o r league lead with his 15th victory, and the Boston Red Sox hung on to defeat the New York Yankees 5-3 Tuesday night.

Boston left fielder Andrew Benintendi stroked three hits in his Fenway Park debut.

Red Sox closer Craig Kimbrel began the ninth inning with a three-run lead, but he walked four, including the last three batters he faced. Matt Barnes came on and caught Mark Teixeira looking at a 2-2 pitch for his first save.

Pedroia, 6-for-31 (.194) on Boston’s just-completed 5-6 road trip, doubled home two runs in the third inning and then doubled in another in the fifth.

Benintendi, called up from Double-A during the road trip, singled and scored in the third inning, hit an



BOB DECHIARA | USA TODAY

**Boston Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia hits an RBI double during the third inning against the New York Yankees at Fenway Park on Tuesday night. Boston won 5-3.**

RBI doubled and scored in the fifth, then singled in the seventh. He is 8-for-16 in his brief major league career.

Porcello, improving to 11-0 in 12 home starts this season, notched his 100th major league win, making him the fourth active pitcher to win 100 games before age 28. Porcello (15-3) tied Toronto’s J.A. Happ and Washington’s Stephen Strasburg for the wins lead. Porcello, the first Sox

pitcher to start 11-0 at home since 1946, won for the seventh time in his past eight starts. He worked eight innings, allowing two runs on seven hits, walking one and striking out six. Porcello has walked just three in his past four starts.

David Ortiz, coming off a 4-for-30 road trip, was hitless his first two times up before an contributing an RBI single and a walk. Yankees starter Luis Sev-

erino (1-7) gave up five runs on seven hits in 4 1/3 innings.

In a flashback to Red Sox-Yankees battles of the past, the benches and bullpens emptied after Jackie Bradley Jr. threw out Chase Headley after the New York third baseman doubled and tried to take third with his team down three runs. Porcello said something Headley didn’t like, and words were exchanged. Nothing came of it.

Brett Gardner had three hits, two of them doubles, and a walk, and Headley doubled twice and drove in a run in the loss that dropped the Yankees back to .500, 56-56.

Alex Rodriguez, in his final road series as a Yankee, did not appear in the game. He is scheduled to start Thursday night. Fenway fans chanted “Where is A-Rod?” in the seventh inning, and then “We want A-Rod” in the ninth, a chant that began small before the whole place erupted.

The Yankees wasted Gardner’s first hit in the first inning but scored in the second and third.

roster spots for Stearns players to fill.

The Lee-Stearns girls soccer cooperative will compete in Class B North this fall, the final year of the current classification cycle, as the combined enrollment for those schools is 417. Class C soccer involves schools with enrollments between 190 and 399.

The girls soccer collaboration between Lee and Stearns is among the latest in a gradually growing number of cooperative teams that are being established to provide more interscholastic athletic opportunities during an era of shrinking public-school enrollment around the state.

“The farther north of Augusta you go as enrollments continue to shrink, I think these types of conversations are going to take place on a much more regular basis,” Durost said. “For some of those sports that not a lot of schools offer, the closest neighbor may be 50 or 60 miles away, and then that becomes a huge commitment for the kids as well as the school’s transportation system or parents.”

For Stearns, this particular effort is largely a chance to enable several of its students who have played several years of soccer to conclude their high school careers on the pitch.

“We’re optimistic,” Lazo said. “This is a one-year cooperative agreement, and we’re hoping it works out and the kids have a good experience.

“The bottom line for me is that the opportunity for those girls who want to play soccer is there. Like anything, it’s not as easy to do when the sport is not at your school, but they have the opportunity to play soccer, if they so desire.”

## Stearns

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Allen also established a marathon in Millinocket last December as a means of drawing people to the area and plans to stage that event again this year.

The Stearns soccer GoFundMe page, established Monday, raised \$560 in its first 24 hours.

The MPA, which oversees interscholastic sports in the state, does not require descriptions of such financial issues as transportation costs on its cooperative team application form, though it does require evidence of local support for the effort.

“Things like transportation are left up to the two or — as is sometimes the case with ice hockey — three or four school systems to work out,” Durost said. “One of the reasons we require school board minutes with the application is so we know right from the front end that there’s support at least in terms of the concept and that the school boards are aware of what needs to be done between the schools.

“I think fundraising is a last resort,” he added, “but certainly, if that’s the only way they’re going to be able to arrange for the kids to get there we have to respect that local approach to doing whatever it is they need to do.”

If this particular fundraising effort doesn’t reach its \$3,500 goal, it won’t represent a death knell for the Stearns players who want to join the Lee Academy girls soccer program this year.

“The opportunity for them

to play soccer is not going to go away,” Lazo said. “What they’re trying to do now is make it more feasible and make something more consistent to get the kids there.

“If the bus doesn’t work out, the opportunity for them to play soccer is going to be there. It is going to make it harder for the kids who want to play soccer, but there’s a core group of girls who are going to go regardless of whether the transportation works out or not.”

The expected alternative would call for private transportation involving parents.

“We always have the concern when the parents are providing the transportation about liability issues,” Durost said. “We don’t want to put the parents in those situations, but sometimes that’s the end result.

“Our advice would be for the school to get some legal advice or at least advice from their insurance company, and then are there any types of forms or documentations that the school might want the different sets of parents to sign off on so there’s a clear understanding on liability, particularly if it’s not able to be covered by school insurance.”

Stearns has never fielded its own girls soccer team, but a small number of players from the school played on a cooperative team with neighboring Schenck of East Millinocket two years ago. At that time, the team was granted an MPA waiver to remain in Class D despite the schools’ combined enrollment being greater than the cutoff for Class C.

That waiver went away last fall, but two Stearns players

were grandfathered to play on the Schenck varsity for one more season without the team having to move up a class. Other Stearns players participated at the junior varsity level.

During the most recent off-season, the school board that oversees Schenck opted to end its cooperative status with Stearns in girls soccer, concerned that a move up to Class C would put the team at a competitive disadvantage.

Schenck has 134 students according to enrollment figures used by the Maine Principals’ Association to place teams under the current two-year statewide classification cycle while Stearns has 181, bringing that two-school total to 315 — well above the 189-student maximum for Class D soccer.

“Once we were turned down with Schenck, the options for us were real thin,” Lazo said. “If I had pursued this with Katahdin (of Stacyville), that’s another 45 minutes in the northern direction, where Lee is 45 minutes to the southeast.

“(Penobscot Valley of) Howland is 35 or 40 minutes in another direction and their program is strong so they wouldn’t have an interest in doing it, and it’s the same thing with MA (Mattanawcook Academy of Lincoln). Their soccer program isn’t hurting for numbers so they wouldn’t be interested, either.

“The options are really thin.”

Lee Academy’s girls soccer roster typically numbers in the mid- to upper teens, according to Lee athletic administrator Randy Harris earlier this summer, leaving open

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The Stanley Cup was at Colby College in Waterville last week with Penguins video coach and Waterville native Andy Saucier.

Tuesday’s festivities included a parade from Biddeford High School to the arena, during which Dumoulin held aloft the trophy while riding on a firetruck.

Once the truck pulled into the arena’s parking lot shortly before noon, a huge throng of fans, many of them wearing Pittsburgh Penguins jerseys (there were some University of Maine and Boston Bruins apparel scattered among the Penguins gear), greeted Dumoulin to roars that could’ve been heard back in the Steel City.

The city of Biddeford did an outstanding job with this celebration, in spite of the fact that all fans in attendance were not able to make it inside the arena for a photograph with the Stanley Cup.

Barbecued goods such as burgers and hot dogs were featured, along with a beer garden, while a DJ kept the crowd entertained with an assortment of music.

After Dumoulin arrived with the Stanley Cup, several local dignitaries stepped to the podium to acknowl-

edge his hard work, and Dumoulin was presented with a key to his hometown.

It’s rare that big-time professional sports trophies make appearances in Maine, but when they do, fans turn out in bunches like they did on Tuesday. In a way, it reminded me of the New England Patriots’ 2002 visit to Bangor’s Bass Park in the months after Super Bowl XXXVI. Players Lawyer Milloy, Adam Vinatieri and Bobby Hamilton accompanied the Vince Lombardi Trophy and Patriots owner Robert Kraft to the Queen City that spring.

Even though the Bruins and Penguins are bitter rivals on the ice, it was great to see the people of Maine turn out to view the Stanley Cup.

While Dumoulin is the first Maine-born player to have his name etched on the trophy, former UMaine hockey standouts Dustin Penner (Anaheim in 2007, Los Angeles in 2012) and Scott Darling (Chicago in 2015) have their names on it.

If you had a chance to see the Stanley Cup on Tuesday, you were treated to an outstanding day, whether you saw it outside the Biddeford Arena or inside.

Tuesday also may have been a bright, sunny 85-degree day, but Lord Stanley’s Cup being on display is just another reminder that fall and winter — and hockey season — are not too far away.

## Andrews

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“When you’re a tight end, you get to run some pass routes so you can take a little break from the trenches. But I’ll get used to it,” the Holden native said.

Maine head coach Joe Harasymiak and offensive coordinator Liam Coen said Andrews will be used as a tight end and as a tackle.

“He’s battling it out for the right tackle spot, and we’ll see how that goes. If he’s not out there at tackle, he’ll be on the field as a tight end. He’s going to play for us. He’s a good physical player who provides some senior leadership,” Harasymiak said.

### Improved special teams emphasized

Special teams were problematic for the 3-8 Black Bears a year ago, and Harasymiak said that will be a “big, big emphasis” during their training camp.

Maine was last in the 12-team Colonial Athletic Association in extra-point efficiency (14-for-18, 77.8 percent) and 11th in average kickoff return yardage (17.2) and punt return yardage (3.5).

The Black Bears were eighth in field goal efficiency (12-21, 57.1 percent).

“In my first year here,

Trevor Coston returned a punt for a touchdown in our first game and that really changed the game for us,” Harasymiak recalled. “Damar Aultman returned kick-offs for touchdowns against New Hampshire (2013) and Rhode Island (2012).

“When you can change field position with a return, it can be a huge momentum swing,” said Harasymiak, who is devoting a lot of time to special teams this season along with new special teams coordinator Nick Charlton.

Harasymiak said players can sometimes view special teams “as that other thing we have to do.”

But he has pointed out to them that “if you want a chance to play in the NFL, you had better be on special teams, and the guys have done a good job buying into it.”

Placekicker Sean Decloux had a sub-par senior season (11-for-18 in field goals, 13-for-15 in extra points) and Sam Lenson went 1-for-2 in field goals.

Returning punter James DeMartini averaged 40.9 yards per punt and challenging him for the job will be junior Lenson and redshirt freshman Derek Deoul. Lenson, Daoul and sophomore Patrick Leonard from John Bapst are the place-kicking candidates.

Maine opens Thursday, Sept. 1, at the University of Connecticut.