

FIRST DAY FUN FACTS - THE WOMEN'S 100



The Olympic track and field programme begins today and on the schedule is the first round of an event in which most pundits expect a Jamaican bonanza. Shelly- Ann Fraser-Pryce, the 2008 and 2012 winner, 2016 champion Elaine Thompson-Herah and sprint newcomer Shericka Jackson are the fastest three women of the season with times of 10.63, 10.71 and 10.77 seconds respectively and understandably there is talk of a medal sweep. This prospect presents several intriguing possibilities.

A WIN FOR SHELLY: If the 34 year-old 4-time 100 metres world champion wins, she will become the first woman to step to the top of the podium three times.

A WIN FOR ELAINE: If the reigning champion wins, she will join Fraser-Pryce, and the American pair of Gail Devers, the 1992 and 1996 queen, and Wyomia Tyus, the winner in 1964 and 1968, as a repeat champion.

A WIN FOR SHERICKA: If the 2016 400 metres bronze medalist wins, she will become the third Jamaican to take the Olympic 100 metres after Fraser-Pryce and Thompson-Herah.

IF THEY SWEEP: There have been sweeps a plenty in the men's 100 metres, but there were none in the women's 100 metres until 2008 when Fraser-Pryce, Sherone Simpson and Kerron Stewart made history with a unique 1-2-2 finish.

MEDAL HISTORY: Starting with Merlene Ottey's third place in 1984, Jamaica has won 3 gold, 5 silver and 5 bronze medals in the 100 metres for women.

Action on the first day of track and field begins at 7:45pm (Jamaica time) on July 29 with the women's 100 metres set for 9:40pm. Discus throwers Fedrick Dacres, Traves Smikle and Chad Wright will seek to advance from the discus qualification round. 800 metres runner Natoya Goule and 400 metre hurdlers Jaheel Hyde, Shawn Rowe and Kemar Mowatt will face the starter.

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