

Jamaicans make progress at World Indoor

Jamaicans Patricia Hall, Dominique Blake and Kimberly Williams all made progress in their respective events during the opening session of the IAAF World Indoor Championships here in Istanbul, Turkey.

Hall is the fifth fastest qualifier for the women's 400m semi-final, scheduled for 12:50pm (Jamaica time), after finishing in 52.99 for second place in her heat. She will be joined in the semi-final by compatriot Dominique Blake, who was also second in her heat with a time of 53.39. Blake was the eight fastest qualifier.

"We have three rounds in three days so it doesn't make sense to kill yourself in the first race," said Hall. "I just did what my coach told me to; stay in the top two. The track is good, it is fast and we will see what happens."

In the women's triple jump qualifier, Kimberly Williams produced the seventh best jump, 14.15, and will feature in tomorrow's final.

"I am extremely happy to make the final and I am hoping to do a few things differently and get a personal best there," she told The Gleaner after her event.

The Jamaicans will continue their campaign later today when the afternoon session kicks off here.

Vonette Dixon and Natasha Ruddock will line up in the heats of the women's 60m hurdles at 10:00am.

Ruddock will start from lane two in heat number one, where she will face outdoor champion Sally Pearson. Dixon will line up in the following heat from lane eight and have American Kristi Castlin to contend with.

The men's 60m heats will see national record holder Lerone Clarke start in heat three from his bogey lane eight, while Nesta Carter will follow in heat four from lane two. Schedule for Friday, March 9

Morning Session (Jamaica time)

2:30 a.m: W High Jump Qual
2:30 a.m: W Triple Jump Qual
2:35 a.m: W 400m Heats
2:55 a.m: M Shot Put Qual
3:10 a.m: M 800m Heats
3:40 a.m: W 3000m Heats
3:45 a.m: W Triple Jump Qual
4:25 a.m: W 60mH Pentathlon
4:35 a.m: M 60m Hept
4:50 a.m: W 800m Heats
5:05 a.m: W High Jump Pentathlon
5:20 a.m: M 400m Heats
5:35 a.m: M Long Jump Heptathlon
5:55 a.m: M 1500m Heats
6:45 a.m: W Shot Put Pentathlon

Afternoon session (Jamaica time)

10:00 a.m: W 60m Heats
10:05 a.m: W Long Jump Pentathlon
10:35 a.m: M 60m Heats
10:40 a.m: M Shot Put Heptathlon
11:20 a.m: M Long Jump Qual
11:30 a.m: W 1500m Heats
11:50 a.m: M High Jump Heptathlon
12:05 p.m: M 3000m Heats
12:15 p.m: M Shot Put Final.
12:35 p.m: W 800m Pentathlon
12:50 p.m: W 400m semi-final
01:10 p.m: M 400m semi-final Source: Jamaica Gleaner