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Mexican Domination Continues

Poza Rica, Mexico, April 8-9—In the middle 1960's, Poland's Jerzy Hausleber came to Mexico to develop racewalkers in a country that virtually had none previously. The hope was that this was a branch of athletics where an intense program could produce a medalist for Mexico as they hosted the 1968 Olympics. It worked, with Jose Pedrazza capturing the 20 Km silver medal behind the venerable Vladimir Golubnichiy, albeit with a closing burst that left practically everyone in the world save the judges waving a red flag. Over the next four years, Hausleber developed a deeper pool of talent and since the middle '70s, Mexico has been an untouchable racewalking force in the Americas and always one of the contenders for world supremacy. The Mexican "revolution" quickly changed the face of the sport with a style emphasizing extreme flexibility and lightning-quick turnover.

The country's domination in the Western Hemisphere continues as walkers from 19 other countries found out at the 2000 version of the Pan American Racewalk Cup. Mexico swept the medals in all three races—men's and women's 20 km, men's 50. In the women's 20, they took six of the first seven places, in the men's 20 five of the first six, and in the men's 50 the first four spots, with two-time World Cup gold medalist Carlos Mercenario relegated to that fourth slot despite a 3:50:27 performance. Following, is Al Heppner's take on the weekend's activities.

Throngs of eager fans gave boisterous welcome to international competitors from Canada to Chile. Poza Rica, a coastal town in east-central Mexico that prides itself on its oil boom origins, played host to a thrilling weekend of racing. It all started early Saturday morning with the women's 20 km race. The US women were given the heady task of defending their 1998 Pan Am Cup title against a strong Mexican team vying for national pride as well as berths on the Mexican Olympic team bound for Sydney in September.

Under cover of hazy clouds, the field of nearly 35 walkers tried to make the most of the early morning conditions. Before long, though, the humidity had risen sharply as the temperatures climbed into the upper 70s. A pack of three Mexicans quickly took charge, setting a strong early pace. It was quickly evident that the Mexican contingent was going to take full advantage of the racing on their home course.

Americans Michelle Rohl, Susan Armenta, and Danielle Kirk joined a large pack to make up the pursuing peleton. Tought the conditions were challenging, Kirk noted of the Mexicans how unusual it was to see "athletes in an Olympic Trials situation working so well together for such a long time." Late in the race, when the chase pack had broken up and most walkers were strung out over the 2 km course, the top two Mexicans, Guadalupe Sanchez and Mara Ibanez were still working together, with Sanchez capturing the gold in 1:34:39.4, 13 seconds ahead of Ibanez.

A strong individual performance from Cuban Oslaidy Cruz Vera kept the Mexicans from sweeping the top six spots. Rohl and Armenta were able to crack the top ten with solid performances under trying conditions. Kirk rounded out the U.S. top three scorers with Jill Zenner in the middle of the pack in 16th place. Sarah Standley met the disfavor of the Pan Am judges late in the race. The U.S. women captured second in the team standings behind the dominant Mexican team.

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The great Willie Plant. On page 11, you will find a newspaper account of a 1-mile race won by the great Willie Plant, who won 13 national titles between 1917 and 1927. He once held the world record at 5 km with a 21:50.6. Here is at a 1925 race in the LA Coliseum.

In the men's 20, which started a few minutes after the women cleared the course, the U.S. fielded "A" and "B" teams based on place finishes at last year's National 20. Curt Clausen was expected to lead the "A" team with strong support from fellow Olympic 50 Km qualifier Andrew Hermann, Tim Seaman, Kevin Eastler, and Jonathan Matthews. The "B" team consisted of Sean Albert, the final Olympic 50 km qualifier Philip Dunn, and Dave McGovern. All but Matthews and McGovern were Olympic Training Center walkers who had spent the last 4 weeks at a high altitude training camp in Cuenca, Ecuador. They were prepared for a grueling race, and Mother Nature took care of the details. After the women's race, the temperature rose into the 80s and the humidity kept the early paces modest. "The conditions were challenging, but not impossible," said Albert, making his senior team debut. "The crowd was very excited and enthusiastic, which made it easier when I started to struggle."

Before the race, Coach Enrique Pena noted that many of the less experienced Mexicans, because it was their Olympic Trials, would use 'suicidal' racing tactics; starting off fast and hanging with the lead pack as long as possible. The size of the lead pack indicated that not only would many of the Mexicans grab hold of the leaders and not let go, nearly everyone would. Clausen, Seaman, Hermann, and Eastler joined in the fray until the sizeable lead pack began to suffer from the relentless ace by Bernardo Segura and Alejandro Lopez, the pre-race favorites. Surprising perhaps everyone but himself, Hermann was the last American to lose the rhythm of the lead pack, though he never slowed his own pace. Segura and newcomer Noe Hernandez took the top two spots, crossing the line arm-in-arm in 1:22:47, obviously ecstatic about their new status as Sydney-bound Olympians. They join Daniel Garcia, already selected based on his third-place finish at the World Championships last summer.

Hermann's seventh-place finish, the highest U.S. finish in recent Pan Am Cup 20 km history, was a testament to the excellent coaching and training program at the Training Center. The rest of the U.S. finishers were Clausen in 12th, Eastler, followed closely by Albert, in 15th and 16th, Dunn in 19th, and Matthews in 22nd. Minor ailments forced Seaman and McGovern to the sidelines.

Sunday welcomed the 50 km men's race with wet skies and cool temperatures. It was a happy respite for the racers from what would be a grueling distance. Despite the length of the race, the raucous cheering of thousands of supporters gave the contest a frenetic mood that only increased at the finish. The U.S. contingent of Mark Green, Gary Morgan, Theron Kissinger, and rookie Will Leggett, put up a great fight against a tough field of Mexican superstars. Hermann observed, "The 50 km guys were great! They stole the show from the fan favorites. They raced smart and tough, and just as in the other races, the times don't reflect it but the effort was impressive." After it was all over, the U.S. team finished second to the Mexicans in all three races. Results:

Women's 20 Km: 1. Guadalupe Sanchez, Mexico 1:34:39.4 2. Mara Ibanez, Mexico 1:34:52.1 3. Graciela Mendoza, Mexico 1:35:28.7 4. Oslaidy Cruz Vera, Cuba 1:36:01.2 5. Rosario Sanchez, Mexico 1:36:14 6. Abigail Saenz, Mexico 1:37:04.3 7. Teresita Collado, Mexico 1:37:29.7 8. Michelle Rohl, USA 1:37:48.7 9. Ivonne Varas, Mexico 1:39:06.1 10. Susan Armenta, USA 1:39:54.5 11. Jeovana Irusta, Bolivia 1:40:29 12. Danielle Kirk, USA 1:41:09.9 13. Sandra Evaristo Mex. 1:40:49 14. Francisca Martinex, Mex. 1:42:23 15. Rosa Roldan, Mex. 1:42:32 16. Jill Zenner, USA 1:43:56.8. . DQ-Sarah Standley, USA (33 starters, 26 finishers, 5 DQs. We have never received complete results on any of the races.)

Men's 20 Km 1. Bernardo Segura, Mexico 1:22:47 2. Noe Hernandez, Mexico 1:22:47 3. Christian Berdeja, Mexico 1:23:46 4. Jefferson Perez, Ecuador 1:24:36 5. Alejandro Lopez, Mexico 1:24:43 6. Claudio Vargas, Mexico 1:25:18 7. Andrew Hermann, USA 1:26:39 8. Luis Garcia, Guatemala 1:27:10 9. Julio Cesar Urias, Guat. 1:27:19 10. Fernando Guerrero, Mexico 1:27:33. . Curt Clausen, USA 1:29:59. . 15. Kevin Eastler, USA 1:31:54 16. Sean Albert, USA

1:31:57. . Philip Dunn, USA 1:35:10. . 22. Jonathan Matthews, USA 1:36:32 DNF—Tim Seaman and Dave McGovern, USA (59 starters, including 25 Mexicans, 29 finishers, at least 8 DQs)

Men's 50 Km—1. Miguel Angel Rodriguez, Mexico 3:43:51 2. Joel Sanchez, Mex. 2:47:54 3. German Sanchez, Mex. 3:48:05 4. Carlos Mercenario, Mex. 3:50:27 5. Arturo Huerta, Canada 3:56:01 (Must be a huge personal best. I don't recall his walking 50 before.) . . 15. Mark Green, USA 4:39:03. . 17. Theron Kissinger, USA 4:51:30 18. Gary Morgan, USA 5:02:06 19. William Leggett, USA 5:04:50

Combined Men and Women Team results: 1. Mexico 2. USA 3. Canada 4. Cuba (Other nations participating: Ecuador, Guatemala, San Salvador, Honduras, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Peru.

Vaill Impressive At National Invitational

Manassas, Virginia, April 2—Teresa Vaill, a member of five World Cup and two World Championship teams since 1985, but never on a U.S. Olympic team, took an important step toward making it to Sydney this year as she won today's National Invitational 20 Km in 1:35:45. That makes her the third U.S. women to better the Olympic "A" standard of 1:36:00 (the time needed in order to send a team of three.) She joins Michelle Rohl and Joanne Dow as the three knowing a top three Trials finish will put them on the team. The 37-year-old Brooksville, Florida resident, who had also met the Olympic Trials marathon standard with a 2:45:49 effort, finished 8 1/2 minutes ahead of second place Victoria Herazo. She went out hard and then gradually slowed, but was never in danger of missing the 1:36 mark. Her approximate 5 km splits were 23:10, 46:39 (23:29), 1:10:50 (24:11), and 1:35:45 (25:45). Herazo, Lisa Sonntag, Cheryl Rellinger, and Bobbi Jo Chapman finished under the 1:48:00 needed to qualify for the Trials. (Rellinger was already qualified.)

In the men's race, Mexico's Francisco Pantoja, who has been burning up courses in Colorado, beat John Nunn by 30 seconds in 1:28:55. The 22-year-old Nunn had a real breakthrough race that qualifies him for the Men's Olympic Trials. Pantoja went out fast with 43:05 for the first 10. At that point, Nunn trailed by more than 2 minutes (45:12). But while Pantoja's pace quickly slowed to better than 9 minutes per 2 Km lap, Nunn accelerated sharply. From a 9:05 on his fifth lap, he went to 8:42 on the sixth and continued at a sub-9 pace to the finish to close the gap dramatically. An 8:44 on the final lap gained 28 seconds, but he ran out of real estate.

Comebacking Ian Whatley, having joined the master's ranks at age 40, was an impressive third in 1:33:18, holding off a challenge by Mike Rohl. Whatley went through 10 km in 46:14, 42 seconds ahead of Rohl. With two laps to go, Rohl had sliced that lead to 18 seconds. Whatley gained a second back on the penultimate lap and then managed to accelerate slightly on the final lap (9:24 compared to 9:34 on lap 9), while Rohl slowed (his final lap was 19 seconds slower than the ninth) to finish 53 seconds behind. Results of the two 20s and the other events on this exciting day of racing are as follows:

Women's 20 Km: 1. Teresa Vaill 1:35:45 2. Victoria Herazo (40) 1:44:15 3. Lisa Sonntag 1:46:43 4. Cheryl Rellinger 1:47:40 5. Bobbi Jo Chapman 1:47:44 6. Donna Chamberlain (43) 1:48:47 7. Ali Bahr 1:52:17 8. Lyn Brubaker (43) 1:52:35 9. Dorit Attias 1:52:43 10. Lee Chase (46) 1:56:37 11. Alison Zabrenski 1:57:09 12. Anne Lankowicz 2:02:24 13. Vanessa Ryan 2:04:35 14. Jean Tenan 2:05:20 15. Loretta Schullein 2:06:17 16. Nadya Dimitrov (49) 2:19:57 17. Ginger Armstrong 2:20:50 18. Judy Stock (47) 2:22:10 19. Kathy Frable (54) 2:26:11 20. Jan Adams (47) 2:29:39 (DQ—Gretchen Eastler-Fishman (1:31:10 at 18) and Gayle Johnson (51) (1:45:31 at 18) (3 DNF)

Men's 20 Km—1. Francisco Pantoja 1:28:55 2. John Nunn 1:29:25 3. Ian Whatley (40) 1:33:18 4. Michael Rohl 1:34:11 5. Tim Watt, England 1:35:35 6. Lachlan McDonald 1:38:55 7. Matt DeWitt 1:39:10 8. John Soucek 1:41:37 9. Greg Dawson 1:43:56 10. Keith Luoma 1:45:20 11. Jim Carmines (56) 1:48:09 12. Nick Bdera (51) 1:50:36 13. Ed Fitch 1:51:07 14. Dave Doherty 1:54:59 15. Norm Frable (54) 1:55:59 16. James McGrath (63) 1:58:34 17. Joe Light (52) 1:59:44 18. Vince Peters (46) 2:00:28 19. Dave Romansky (61) 2:01:16 20. Bob Barrett (66) 2:01:19 21. Bob Ryan 2:07:03 22. Ron Shields (56) 2:09:21 23. Victor Litwinski (56) 2:10:15 24. Bob Mimm (75) 2:15:38 (4 DQs, 1 DNF)

Youth 3 Km, Somen—1. Tina Peters (12) 18:14 2. Allison (10) 18:40 **Junior 5 Km, Women**—1. Christine Fina (18) 27:02 2. Alina Zeleznova (17) 27:47 3. Anne Dumas (17) 28:44

Open/Masters 5 Km, Women—1. Maryanne Torrellas (41) 27:02 2. Cassandra (18) 29:33 3. Barbara Imperiale (20) 31:29 4. Lois Dicker (6) 31:32. . . 16. Margaret Walker (78) 40:42 (16 finishers) **Open/Masters 5 Km, Men**—1. George Fenigsohn (52) 28:16 2. Jerry Goodwin (44) 29:01 3. Jim Goldstein (51) 29:33 4. Ed Fitch 31:09 (12 finishers, 2 DQs) **Collegiate 10 Km, Women**—1. Elizabeth Paxton (16) 54:50 2. Caitlin Bonney (17) 54:52 3. Lisa Marie Vellucci (21) 61:57 **Junior 10 Km, Men**—1. Daniel Pendergast (18) 52:38 2. Jonathan Chasse (17) 56:03 **Open/Masters 10 Km, Men**—1. Jeff Salvage 51:21 2. David Lawrence (44) 51:27 3. David Baldwin (57) 56:30 4. Ken Mattsson 59:32 5. Robert Dawson (61) 61:00 6. Jack Starr (71) 62:07

Morgan, Rellinger Grab National Titles

Flushing, Michigan, April 16—Defying his 40 years and the rigors of travel and a tough 50 km in Mexico a week earlier, Gary Morgan strolled to victory in the National USATF 30 Km title race today. Gary's 2:47:22 left him more than 3 minutes ahead of Rod Craig, 2 years his senior. Youthful Cheryl Rellinger (a mere 34) was just 10 seconds slower than Gary in winning the women's race over Jill Zenner (the real youngster in the festivities at 25), in her first attempt at such a distance. In an accompanying 20 km, Ioan Froman and Molly Lavecek led the way, with Lavacek finishing in 1:46:51 to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Trials.

The next three finishers in the men's race were all post-50 athletes (and all tough, competitive walkers in that age group), with Ed Fitch in sixth being the youngster in the race at 39. Likewise, in the women's race, the remaining finishers were what we will politely term gently aging folks

Not to discount Gary's victory—he is still quite competitive at the national level—but we have to note once again the paucity of quality racewalkers and the younger crowd at a National title race. This, of course, is not a new problem (there were some really cheap national titles 40 years ago when I was coming into the sport), but a growing one, which we won't dwell on since it has been discussed by me and others in these pages in recent times. Just note it again in passing.

Results:

Men's National 30 Km: 1. Gary Morgan 2:47:22 2. Rod Craig 2:50:39 3. Jim Carmines (56) 2:52:08 4. Max Walker (53) 2:53:57 5. Leon Jasionowski (55) 2:57:07 6. Ed Fitch 2:57:54 7. Ken Lampar, Jr. (42) 3:17:33 8. Ross Barranco (50) 3:21:34 9. Ron Shields (56) 3:32:39 10. Jack Starr (71) 3:34:13 11. Bernie Finch (60) 3:47:45

Women's 30 Km: 1. Cheryl Rellinger 2:47:32 2. Jill Zenner 2:49:21 3. Jackie Reitz (51) 3:05:39 4. Stephanie Konsza (44) 3:21:38 5. Debbie Topham (47) 3:24:50 6. Kathy Gurny (45) 3:29:21 7. Joan Berman (62) 3:44:47 8. Jeanne Bocci (57) 3:50:22

Men's 20 Km: 1. Ioan Froman (39) 1:41:07 2. Mike Close (31) 2:02:02 **Women's 20 Km:** 1. Molly Lavacek 1:46:51 2. Gayle Johnson (51) 1:53:44 3. Donna Cunningham (43) 2:00:31 4. Walda Tichy (59) 2:14:01 5. Lynette Heinlein (43) 2:22:14 6. Charlotte Briggs (37) 2:37:13

Other Results

3 Km, Milford, Conn., Feb. 13—1. Nick Manuzzi (40+) 14:27 2. Jim Carmines (50+) 14:36 3. Donna Chamberlain (40+) 14:37 4. Stan Sosnowski (40+) 15:23 5. Joe Light (50+) 15:40 6. Bill Vayo 15:59 7. Lee Chase (40+) 16:40 8. Ann Percival (40+) 17:07 9. Andy Cable 17:35 10. Jean Tenan 17:36 11. Gerry Patrick (60+) 18:03 12. Bob Beaudet (60+) 18:51 (31 finishers, 1 DQ) **Boston Marathon, April 17** (unofficial race)—1. Bob Keating (53) 4:51:03 2. Stephen Attaya (51) 4:57:10 3. Robert Austin (58) 5:01:57 (6 finishers) **Metropolitan 10 Km Championship, New York City, April 9**—1. Nick Bdera (51) 52:38 2. Loretta Schuelein (22) 55:16 3. Gary Null (55) 55:52 4. Bil Vayo 56:03 5. Martine Rainville 56:56 6. Vlado Haluska (48) 57:10 7. Shawn Frederick (46) 58:10 8. Bruce Logan 59:15 9. Richard Harper (50) 59:51 10. Andy Cable 60:04 11. Bob Barrett (65) 60:15 12. Sherwin Wilk (61) 60:46 13. Thomas Turner (49) 61:08 (28 finishers) **5 Miles, South Miami, Fla., April 2**—1. Rodolfo Puime 40:40 2. Juna Yanes (50) 41:57 3. Janos Szalas (44) 44:02 Women: 1. SAonia Mora (48) 52:37 **Florida 8 Km, Championships, Orlando, April 9**—1. Steve Renard 42:53 2. John Fredericks (50-54) 47:07 3. Paul Johnson (60-64) 47:31 4. Bob Fine (65-59) 50:38 (12 finishers) Women—1. Linda Stein (50-54) 50:47 2. Theresa Hellings (40-44) 51:41 (Canadian June-Marie Provost (65-59) walked 51:10, but was not eligible for state championship award) **5 Km, Miami, April 15**—1. Rod Vargas 26:07 2. Dario Ramirez (63) 26:11 3. Juan Mora 30:36 Women—1. Sarah Perry 27:17 2. Sonia Mora (48) 31:34 **1 Hour, Indianapolis, April 9**—1. Drew Swonder 11,514 meters 2. Lou Held (45) 11,453 3. Max Walker (53) 11,205 4. Mike Bird (52) 10,037 Women—1. Jackie Reitz (51) 10,215 2. Tish Roberts (50) 9819 3. Linda Swonder (39) 9495 4. Barb Stayton (45) 9352 **Illinois Masters Indoor 3 Km, Hillside, April 2**—1. Rich McGuire (52) 6:59.65 2. Michael Rose (38) 7:21 3. Al Dubois (68) 7:42 4. Ron Winkler (49) 8:12 5. ALice Winkler (50) 9:55 **5 Km, Waukesha, Wis., March 25**—1. Lachlan McDonald 22:47 2. Matt DeWitt 22:51 3. Jim Heys 23:21 4. Deb Iden 25:10 5. Michael Stanton 26:39 6. Jayne Herrington 28:03 7. Angie Nieth 28:05 8. Michael Rose 28:05 9. Kathleen Stuper 28:36 10. Ron Winkler 30:02 11. Allison Mann 30:52 (18 finishers) **Women's Indoor 3 Km, Lebanon, Ill., April 14**—1. Laurie Starr, Hastings Col. 15:53.03 2. Heather George, Hastings 16:09 3. Traci Bridges, Olivet Nazarene 17:29 **Men's 3 Km, same place**—1. Jeremy Eye, McKendree Col. 15:43.25 2. Justin Grunert, McKendree 17:17 3. Chris Pluister, Olivet Nazarene 17:28 **10 Km, Kenosha, Wis., April 16**—1. Matt DeWitt 45:51 2. Debbi Lawrence 46:06 3. Lachlan McDonald 46:19 4. Jim Heys 47:08 5. Steve Quirke 49:09 6. Paul Malek (44) 49:50 7. Mike DeWitt (49) 50:53 8. Deb Iden 51:51 9. Ali Bahr 52:15 10. Mike Rose (40) 57:22 11. Al DuBois (68) 58:47 **5 Km, same place**—1. Papul Rugal (11) 29:07 2. Eric Rugal (12) 30:45 **3 Km, same place**—1. Amber Antonia 14:11 2. Kathleen Stuper 16:09 3. Katie Mendonca 17:48 **7 Km, Denver, March 12**—1. Francisco Pantoja 28:04 2. Jose Pantoja 28:08 3. Terry Femmer (48) 38:50 4. Daryl Meyers (57) 40:15 5. Peggy Miller (45) 41:30 6. Lorie Rupoli (48) 42:22 **5 Km, Littleton, Col., March 19**—1. Francisco Pantoja 22:25 2. Jose Pantoja 22:26 3. Filiberto Pantoja 27:26 (apparently visiting his brothers from Mexico City) 4. Terry Femmer 27:34 5. Daryl Meyers 28:55 6. John Tarin (47) 29:08 **5 Km, Denver, March 26**—1. Daryl Meyers 28:47 2. Lorie Rupoli 31:00 **5 Km, Denver, April 1**—1. Daryl Meyers 28:55 2. Lorie Rupoli 29:50 **Mt. SAC Relays, Walnut, Cal., April 9**: Women's 3 Km—1. Jackie Campos 16:18.55 2. Kimmy Morris 16:32.47 Women's 5 Km—Jackie Campos 28:01.01 2. Kimmy Morris 30:12 3. Sharon Clairmont (47) 31:10 (12 finishers) Women's 10 Km—1. Margaret Govea 56:24.67 2. Karen Bartolo (56) 62:53 3. Jolene Steigerwalt (57) 63:09 (8 finishers) Men's 5 Km—1. Ed Bouldin (52) 29:20.86 2. Jesus Orendain (57) 30:14 3. Bob Nyman (61) 30:55 (7 finishers) Men's 10 Km—1. Joe Nieroski 50:24.03 2. Chris Dreher (42) 53:46 3. Dave Crabb (52) 57:56 4. Pedro Santoni (42) 50:51 5. Carl Acosta (66) 63:04 (10 finishers) **5 Km, Auburn, Cal., April 16**—1. Pradeep Chand 24:08 2. Eric Poulsen (49) 25:52 3. Shoja Torabian (51) 26:11 4. Joe Berendt (44) 26:13 5. Jack Bray (67)

27:32 6. Jim Currier (51) 28:12 7. Bryan Winter (43) 29:10 8. Gilbert Ayala (49) 29:17 9. Ed Lane (63) 30:39 10. Peter Corona (71) 31:08 (22 finishers) Women—1. Karen Stoyanowski (45) 28:32 2. M.J. Baglin (53) 31:35 3. Ann Gerhardt (48) 31:36 4. Loribeth Jacobs 31:40 5. Shirley Dockstader (67) 31:54 (22 finishers) **Western Regional 10 Km, Seattle, April 22**—1. Ric Holt 48:23.5 2. Gerry Dragomir (48), Canada 50:50 3. Rob Frank (47) 53:49 4. Kelly Murphy-Glenn 54:04 5. Stan Chraminski (52) 54:54 6. Carmen Jacinsky 55:04 7. Bob Novak (50) 55:32 8. Merima Kostecki (19), Cna. 55:59 9. Mary Snyder (49) 56:34 10. Bev LaVeck (64) 59:27 11. John Backlund (60) 61:42 12. George Opsahl (58) 62:21 (15 finishers, 3 DQs) **5 Km, same place**—1. Sharon Yen, Can. 28:17.7 2. Ann Tuberg (40) 29:09 3. Seth Davick 30:55 (10 finishers, 2 DQs)

Women's 20 Km, Leamington, Eng., April 23—1. Hongyu Liu, China 1:28:40 2. Yan Wang, China 1:29:37 3. Elisabetta Perrone, Italy 1:30:14 4. Maria Vasco, Spain 1:30:20 5. Hong Li, China 1:31:31 6. A Fidoti, Italy 1:31:42 Teams: 1. China 143 2. Italy 133 3. Spain 126 4. Great Britain 107 **Men's 20 Km, same place**—1. Francisco Fernandez, Spain 1:20:18 2. Yungfeng Liu, China 1:20:19 3. A. Oro, Italy 4. Joel Sanchez, Mexico 1:20:53 5. Zewen Li, China 1:21:12 6. Denis Langlois, France 1:21:26 **50 Km, same place**—1. Giovanni Perricelli, Italy 3:50:21 2. Dominic McGrath, Australia 3:57:51 3. F. Martin, Spain 4:00:16 4. M. Passoni, Italy 4:02:17 A. Corfano, Italy 4:03:08 6. D. Dafagno, Italy 4:06:30 Team Score Men: 1. Italy 141 2. Spain 134 3. Great Britain 123 **Men's 20 Km, Rio Maior, Portugal, April 15**—1. Unfeng Liu, China 1:20:01 2. Joao Vieira, Port. 1:22:53 3. Chaohong Yu, China 1:23:35 4. Carcia Gragado, Spain 1:25:48 5. Claus Jorgensen, Denmark 1:26:00 6. Jose Guimera, Spain 1:26:39 (DQ—Aigars Fadejevs, Latvia and Zewen Li, China) **Women's 20 Km, same place**—1. Hongyu Liu, China 1:27:55 2. Han Wang, China 1:28:27 3. Ailing Xue, China 1:31:45 4. Susana Feitor, Port. 1:32:20 5. Hong Li, China 1:32:23 6. Cherly Webb, Australia 1:34:25 **Irish 20 Km Championship, Dublin, April 9**—1. Robert Heffernan 1:23:49 (21:14, 22:05, 62:52) 2. Andi Drake, Great Britain 1:25:56 3. Jamie Costin 1:27:48 4. Jeff Cassin 1:30:58 5. Colin Griffin (junior) 1:34:42 **Women's 20 Km Championship, same place**—1. Gillian O'Sullivan 1:35:09 2. Olive Loughnane 1:35:36 **20 Km, Guadix, Spain, April 2**—1. Francisco Fernandez, Spain 1:24:51 2. Jorge Ignacio Silva 1:28:15 3. Jesus Garcia Bragado 1:28:58 3. Juan Porras 1:28:42 4. Fernando Vasquez 1:28:54 **Women's 10 Km, same place**—1. Maria Vasco 46:02 2. Encarna Granados 46:10

Hey, don't wait; let's ambulate

Sat. May 6	5 Km, Sioux Falls, S.D., 7 am (Y)
Sun. May 7	10 Km, Eugene, Ore. (C)
	1/2 Marathon, Long Island (F)
	15 and 30 Km, Foster, Rhode Island (BB)
	Jack Mortland 5, 10, and 20 Km (the 20 is an Ohio and North Zone Championship, Yellow Springs, Ohio (M)
	Southeast Masters 20 Km, Raleigh, N.C. (AA)
Fri. May 12	Southeast Masters 5 Km, Raleigh, N.C., 6:30 pm (AA)
Sat. May 13	5 Km, Long Island, 9 am (F)
Sun. May 14	3 Km, Alexandria, Vir. (J)
	New England 5 Km, Cambridge, Mass., 9:30 am (N)
	15 and 20 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (O)
	Southeast Masters 20 Km, Raleigh, N.C. (AA)
	10 and 20 Km, Palo Alto, Cal. (R)

- Mon. May 15 5 Km, (track), Banks, Oregon, 9 am (C)
 15 Km, Riverside, Cal. (Z)
 Wed. May 17 4 Mile, Littleton, Col., 7 pm (H)
 Sat. May 20 Metropolitan 20 Km, New York City, 8:30 am (F)
 Sun. May 21 **National USATF 15 Km, El Grove, Ill. (S)**
 5 Km, Littleton, Col., 8:30 am (H)
 5, 10, and 20 Km, Point Pleasant, N.J., 9:30 am (A)
 Sat. May 27 10 and 20 Km (Track), Broomfield, Col., 8 am (H)
 Sun. May 28 3 Km, Alexandria, Vir. (J)
 Sanford Kalb 9 Mile, Lakewood, N.J. (A)
 Alongi Classic 5 Km, Kentfield, Cal. (P)
 Art Keay Memorial 5 and 10 Km, Toronto, 9 am (I)
 Mon. May 29 10 Km, Boulder, Col., 8 am (H)
 Sat. June 3 20 Km, Eisenhower Park, L.I., N.Y., 9 am (F)
 5 Km, Miami, 7 pm (Q)
 20 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (O)
 Sun. June 4 5 Mile, Long Island (F)
 20 Km, Charleston, R.I. (N)
 Sat. June 10 10 Km, Long Island, 5:30 pm (F)
 Sun. June 11 5 Mile, New Hyde Park, L.I., N.Y. (F)
 5 Km, Cambridge, Mass. (N)
 3 Km, Alexandria, Vir. (J)
 Senior Olympics 5 and 1500, Eagle Rock, Cal., 11 am (CC)
 Sat. June 17 5 Km, Long Island, 9 am (F)
 5 Km, Rio Rancho, N.M. (W)
 Sun. June 18 Ohio 8 Km and Novice 3 Km (Track), Franklin, 1 pm (M)
 Wed. June 21 5 Km, Denver, 6 pm (H)
 Sat. June 24 4 Mile, Long Island, 9 am (F)
 5 and 10 Km, Youth 3 Km, Van Nuys, Cal., 5 pm (B)
 15 and 20 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (O)
 North Region 8 KM, Kalamazoo, Mich. (DD)
 5 Km, Denver (H)
 Sun. June 25 Metropolitan 15 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)
 3 Km, Alexandria, Vir. (J)
 Sun. June 25 1 Hour, Sacramento (P)
 Sun. July 2 5 Km, Long Island (F)
 Mon. July 3 5 Km, Miami, 7 pm (Q)
 Tue. July 4 8 Km, Alexandria, Vir. (J)
 Sun. July 9 Eastern Regional 3 Km, Connecticut(N)
 5 Km, Cambridge, Mass. (N)
 3 Km, Alexandria, Vir. (J)
 1 Mile, Miami (Q)

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 F—Howard "Jake" Jacobson, P.O. Box 640, Levittown, NY 11756

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From Heel to Toe

Subscription rates. People ask me from time to time how I can afford to publish this newsletter for just \$10.00 a year. Well, I've decided I no longer can. So, here is the bad news loyal but penurious subscribers have probably been dreading. Starting with this issue, the subscription rate goes up to \$12.00 a year—\$15.00 for subscribers outside the U.S. The ORW philosophy has always been to break even, not make a profit; but we don't want the family to have to subsidize the effort either. When Jack Blackburn and I started this effort 35 years and 1 month ago, the subscription rate was \$1.20. I don't recall exactly, but I guess a stamp cost 4, 5, or 6 cents at that time, because, after the initial issues, we were generally sending out eight pages (reproduced by the ditto process). That put us over an ounce and required some additional postage, so most of the 10 cents per issue (we put that price on our masthead in those early days) was going to postage. Anyway, after Jack moved and left me as editor, publisher, etc., I held the line on that rate until Feb. 1968, when I jumped it all the way to \$2.00 (and deleted any mention of a per issue cost, since we had not cracked the newstands—and still haven't, unlike Runners World, which Bob Anderson kicked off in the same month and year as the ORW.) By then, I was paying to have it mimeographed and had to collect something beyond the postage cost. Further adjustments have been made through the years as we went to a printed publication, printing costs rose, and postage rates skyrocketed. We have been at \$10.00 since September 1992. Before that, we had a Second Class postal permit for several years and were charging \$6.00, or \$8.00 to those who preferred to get First Class delivery. When it got to where about half the subscribers were paying extra for first class mail, we decided the hassle of the second class permit wasn't worth it, so we dropped it and adjusted the rate to inflation at the same time. Nearly 8 years later, the time has arrived for another adjustment. Apologies to those who received a first renewal notice last month and ignored it, but still want to subscribe. You just cost yourself two bucks. (Although if you pretend you didn't notice the increase and send me just 10 bucks I'm sure you will get another year from our soft-hearted subscription manager.) We might tire or expire before another increase is required. . . **Dead end or not.** Jim Hanley seems to be reaching a dead end on the following quest and wonders if

any of our readers can help: "To all racewalkers and friends, please help me with this if you can. Bill Peck is putting together an all-LA City Schools alumnae all-star team. To his credit he has included racewalkers. There was an outstanding distance runner named John Wall who went to LA Lincoln High in 1930 and LA Roosevelt High in 1932. Is that the same John Wall who represented the Baltimore Olympic Club and won at least 10 national championship medals as a racewalker from 1949 to 1951? If the Baltimore John Wall was in the Navy (in San Francisco in the late 1930s) or from California, we can be pretty sure it is the same guy. I have corresponded with Elliott Denman who does not know. If anyone has any information that can help, please contact me immediately. Thank you very much. Jim Hanley, 3345 Allegheny Ct., Westlake Village, CA 91362, 805-496-1829, jhanley@gte.net." . . . **Where's Adolph?** Further comment on our walks of the century speculation comes from Dan O'Brien, now transplanted from Michigan to Hawaii. "How about Adolph Weinacker for the top in the 50? Three-time Olympian, seventh in '56 Olympics, American record holder. Just a thought." And a good thought. I had him in the mix, but didn't quite get him in my top ten. But that doesn't mean he wouldn't be in a consensus top 10 if such a thing ever came about. (Consensus of who?) . . . **Another contender.** Yueling Chen, the 1992 Olympic 10 Km gold medalist who has been living in the U.S. for the past several years, has finally gotten her U.S. citizenship and plans to compete in the U.S. Olympic Trials in July. She did a 1:38:17 in Sacramento in Feb. 1999 in her first, and apparently only, race at the distance. **The pressure is on.** Jay Byers, one of the quality walkers to come out of Wisconsin, included a nice note with his e-mail change of address. First he related his move from Bakersfield Cal. to Houston. "I transferred back to Texas when my present employer (Occidental Oil & Gas) chose to relocate to Houston. (I quit my previous employer—Unical—after they transferred me to Houston back in '96. . . and here I am again. . . no mountains and lots of humidity.) I've been walking a bit lately (with Dave Gwyn) and even competed in the Texas Southern Relays after three workouts (7:52 mile)." Then, he goes on to put the pressure on your editor. "As always, I enjoy my monthly Ohio Racewalker and get a kick when I see a few of the guys from my generation (marco, Dan Pierce, Dave Lawrence, etc.) who are still out there pounding the pavement. Jack, The Ohio Racewalker is the only magazine I've subscribed to over that last 25 years and my subscription has been active for all 25. By my thinking, an excellent magazine and a testament to the writer/editor. Best of luck over the next 25." (Emphasis mine. I doubt if even Jay will want to follow the ravings of a 90-year-old curmudgeon.) . . . **Speaking of curmudgeons.** Using that term reminded me of couple of books in my library by Jon Winkour, *The Portable Curmudgeon* and *A Curmudgeon's Garden of Love*. In the former, under quotes on California, which Jay is sorry to leave, we find among several: "It's a scientific fact that if you stay in California you lose one point of your IQ every year." Truman Capote. "Californians invented the concept of life-style. This alone warrants their doom." Dom DeLillo. On Texas, which Jay is sorry to return to: "If I owned Texas and Hell, I would rent out Texas and live in Hell." Philip Sheridan. But who am I to be denigrating these states that many love. . . Ohio doesn't even make the book. Well, back to the subject of this newsletter. **More on Hersey shoes.** In the last issue, we mentioned the customized shoes of Bart Hersey in Maine (207-778-3130—not 107 as I had last month). More on Bart and his shoes from Tom Eastler: ". . . he offered several months ago to make training and racing shoes free for the ARCO Olympic Training Center racewalkers. You may not know that Curt Clausen has been using Hersey shoes for a number of years now, and Bart is hoping to see those shoes on the medal stand at the Olympics. In any case, a number of the ARCO racewalkers (including my son Kevin) have taken Bart up on his most generous offer of two pairs of training shoes and one pair of racing shoes, with resoling thrown in so long as they stay at the training center. This may not seem like any great deal to some, but for a small independent shoe maker, who makes a very high quality shoe and who has a world-wide clientele, it represents a great deal of time spent away from his already full load of orders to fill, extra work, and added expense, which he has willingly donated to the U.S. national racewalking program. His

effort should not remain anonymous. . . . He makes his famous shoes, each shoe precisely measured to and unique to the appropriate foot, in a little one-room workshop crammed full of various contraptions for making lasts and producing shoes from scratch. His shop is way out in the Maine woods, and is worth the time just to visit. My hat is off to Bart Hersey, and I personally think his shoes are great." . . . **Racewalk retreat.** The 5th Annual Northwest Regional Race Retreat is May 19-21 at beautiful Tualatin Hills Athletic Center in Beavertown, Oregon. Martin Rudow, international judge, former National coach, former elite competitor, author of racewalking books, producer of racewalking videos, well-known racewalk clinician, and all-around good guy, will be contributing to the program. Contact Judy Heller at 503-282-1677, e-mail judy@erofit.com for more information. . . . **McGovern clinic.** Another famous conductor of clinics and racewalking camps is national team member Dave McGovern (also an author). Dave will be at LaSalle High School in Cincinnati on June 10-11 for one of his clinics, of which we have heard nothing but good words. Dave dispenses vital information for both beginning and advanced level walkers and has a lot of fun doing it. Contact Ralph Dehner, 10574 Latina Ct., Cincinnati, OH 45218 for further information. . . . **Fast Heel-and toe record for Plant.** From the Sunday, April 4, 1920 *New York Times*: *Champion Walks Speediest Mile Ever Recorded by an American at Mechanics' Games.* Willie Plant of the Morningside A.C., national walking champion, last night walked the fastest indoor mile ever recorded by an American walker in the first annual indoor athletic meet of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics in the Thirteenth Regiment Armory, Brooklyn. Plant, starting from scratch against ten rivals in a one-mile handicap heel-and-toe race, broke the worsted in a 6:37 3/5, after one of the best races of his career. The champion's time eclipsed by one and two-fifth seconds the best previous figures for an American walker, 6:39 made several weeks ago by Plant. Starting one minute and ten seconds later than the most liberally handicapped rival, Plant assumed a place (Ed. I didn't think the *Times* ever made mistakes, but it would seem that they wanted pace, not place) which early portended a record-smashing race. The champion, gaining by slow stages on his rivals, turned the first quarter mile in 1:32. J. Wickers, enjoying the limit allowance, was in front of the field, going strong. At the half mile mark Plant's times was 3:11 2/5, and his position was slightly improved on the walkers in front of him. In the next quarter mile, Plant increased his pace a notch in preparation for his final effort. He turned the three-quarter mile mark within striking distance of rivals in 4:53 4/5 (Ed. Actually he was 3 seconds slower than on the second quarter). Ted Neundorfer, Todd Shipyards, A.A., allowed 35 seconds, was leading. At the seventh lap of his eight-lap journey, Plant had gained even terms with the rear of the handicap contingent. The champion, picking up speed with each stride, cut down on his rivals one by one for the remainder of the seventh lap. Entering the eighth and final lap, Plant was engaged in a keen tussle with Neundorfer for the leadership. Neundorfer held the upper hand until the walkers were entering the final turn before hitting the homestretch, when Plant, with a brilliant closing burst, gradually forged to the front, and, continuing at a fast pace, worked up an advantage of 20 yards on Neundorfer. Frank Keisner, who was allowed 30 seconds, finished third. The announcement that Plant's was the fastest mile ever walked by an American was greeted with thunderous applause from 4,000 spectators who attended the sports. (I should give proper credit for supplying this gem, but now I'm not sure who who sent it. I think it was John Shilling, or was it Elliott Denman. Anyway, you won't see that kind of coverage for a walking race these days.) . . . **A small payoff.** With some of the huge sums that top track and field athletes get in prizes, guarantees, and endorsements, the money available to racewalkers looks pretty paltry, but it's a lot more than nothing, which was the case until quite recently. Anyway, here are the terms of athletes grants from the racewalking development budget (which might grow considerably if corporate sponsorship is ever found): a. Stipends are performance based and relate to time and place in major competitions. b. Stipends must be used for training, testing, and competition; c. This program extends support beyond the top two or three athletes in the Olympic distances. d. Support is not restricted to IAAF "A" and "B" standard qualifiers. 2000 Pan Am

Cup—\$100 to each team member, \$250 to the scoring members (tip 3); \$750 for a top three finish. 2000 Olympic Games—\$500 to each team member, \$1000 for a top 10 finish. \$5000 for a medal. Performance standards: Men—50 Km—\$300 for sub 4:00; \$150 for sub 4:10; \$1000 for American road record. 20 Km—\$300 for sub 1:23; \$150 for sub 1:25; \$1000 for American road record. Women—20 Km—\$300 for sub 1:36; \$150 for sub 1:40; \$1000 for American road record. In addition, of course, there are IAAF payoffs to medal winners in World Cup and World Championship events. . . **Fund raiser.** Speaking of raising funds, the North American Racewalking Institute, which contracted with Enrique Pena to coach at the Olympic Training Center, seems to be leading the way in seeking support for the sport at the elite level. Institute objectives are athlete development, coaching, training, and competition. They are holding a major fund raiser at the New York Athletic Club on June 2. Funds raised at the affair will help pay the travel expenses of Coach Pena to a high altitude camp, elite competitions in Europe, and ultimately to Sydney where he will guide his team through the training and competitions. (Three Olympic Training Center members are already on the team at 50 km and additional men and women will probably qualify at 20.) Cost of the dinner is \$125. It will be attended by Coach Pena, the 50 Km team of Curt Clausen, Andrew Hermann, and Philip Dunn, and other OTC members. The athletes will be returning from a month of competition in Europe and should have much to report. The not-for-profit Institute always accepts personal contribution, as well, and offers a variety of books, videos, t-shirts, and other racewalking related items for sale. Contact the North American Racewalking Institute, Inc. at P.O. Box 50312, Pasadena, CA 91115, phone 626-441-5459, fax 626-799-5106, e-mail NARWI@aol.com.

World Junior Lists for 1999

(Those born in 1980 and later)

These lists of the top 10 were published in the Canadian journal Athletics, Feb./March 2000 along with lists for all track and field events. The only problem is that for the men, they had a list for 20000 meters walk and one for 20 km walk with no indication of why. Perhaps one is for road times and one for track, but it doesn't say so. Therefore, I have chosen to combine the two lists into a single top ten. There were also two lists for men at 10 km, but only two names on one of them. I have worked these two into the other list. For the women, there was just one list for each event. The lists were compiled by Lionel Peters, Great Britain; Mirko Jalava, Finland; Hans van Kuijen, Netherlands; Emmerich Gotze, Germany; Peter Matthews, Great Britain, and others.

Men's 10 Km

39:38.0 Roman Rasskazov, Russia
40:03.0 Aleksandr Stokov, Russia
40:15.1 Maris Putenis, Latvia
40:28.5 Vladimir Potemin, Russia
40:34.8 Jose Alejandro Dominguez, Spain
40:38.4 Yevgeniy Demkov, Russia
40:53.4 Radovan Elko, Slovakia
41:24.3 Ivan Shuler, Belarus
41:42.2 Alejandro Resendiz, Mexico
41:49.8 David Christian Berdeja, Mexico

Women's 10 Km

43:52.0 Sabine Zimmer, Germany
43:58.0 Natalya Fedoskina, Russia
44:10.0 Lyudmila Yefimkina, Russia

20 Km

1:19:36.0 Roman Rasskazov, Russia
1:22:49.0 Aleksandr Stokov, Russia
1:24:28.3 Zhu Hongjun, China
1:24:28.7 Pei Chuang, China
1:24:59.0 Aivars Kadaks, Latvia
1:25:02.0 Troy Sundstrom, Australia
1:26:00.0 Stepan Uudin, Russia
1:26:04.0 Maris Putenis, Latvia
1:26:16.0 Vladimir Potemin, Russia
1:26:22.9 Wang Shigang, China

Women's 20 Km

1:27:35 Natalya Fedoskina, Russia
1:29:09 Olga Polyakova, Russia
1:30:12 Lyudmila Yefimkina, Russia

44:25.0 Olga Polyakova, Russia	1:31:45 Larisa Safronova, Russia
44:31.0 Tatyana Sibileva, Russia	1:35:24 Irina Klepikova, Russia
44:39.0 Yekatarina Dergunova, Russia	1:36:10 Anne Simonsen, Norway
44:43.0 Irina Klepikova, Russia	1:36:17 Lyudmila Bushmeleva, Russia
44:55.0 Larisa Safronova, Russia	1:37:03 Li Yurui, China
45:49.1 Gao Kelian, China	1:37:34 Gao Kelian, China
46:01.2 Margarita Turova, Belarus	1:37:51 Ha Ming, China

Looking Back

35 Years Ago (From the April 1965 ORW)—Our second issue was still quite parochial in nature, as we had yet to develop our vast national and international network of source. However, we did show races in New York City, Kings Point, N.Y., and Toronto on our schedule of events (called just that at the time). . . The big news was Jack Mortland's decimation of Jack Blackburn on the famous Doc Blackburn side-yard track (9.3 laps to the mile). Blackburn held on for 5 3/4 miles of the 8 mile race and then had to stagger in as Mortland's 61:18 left him nearly 2 minutes behind. The 52-year-old Dr. John Blackburn recorded a 75:56. . . Mortland also won a 12-mile affair in 1:36:43, but fell apart himself in that one, requiring nearly 18 minutes for the final 2 miles.

30 Years Ago (From the April 1970 ORW)—Walking was entering a new era as evidenced by Dave Romansky's American Record 1:58:09 for 25 km, Tom Dooley's 15 miles 1090 yards for 2 hours (passing 25 km in 1:59:20), and Greg Diebold's 13:28.6 for 2 miles. . . Romansky also had an American record 50 km (4:15:23) on the track. . . Another American record went to Shaul Ladany with his 7:52:04 for 50 miles. . . Locally, the rapidly aging Mortland (then 35) again hit the wall over the last 2 miles as he won a track 20 km in 1:40:33. He also won a 10 km on the track in 48:38, ahead of Paul Reback's 49:54.

25 Years Ago (From the April 1975 ORW)—Ron Laird won his 57th U.S. title, and first since 1971, covering 25 km in 1:56:38 in Seattle. . . Dave Romansky was still getting around quite well, going 1:34:38 for 20 km on the track. . . The World record for 100 km fell to Jean-Pierre Garcia of France, who covered the distance in 9:33:06. . . Ladany was still cleaning up in the ultra-distances, winning the U.S. 75 km title in 7:22:10, 17 minutes ahead of Dan O'Connor.

20 Years Ago (From the April 1980 ORW)—Walking the second fastest 50 km ever by an American, Carl Schueler won the National title in New York City with his 4:06:07. Dan O'Connor was 13 minutes behind as Schueler bettered his personal record by 18 minutes. . . A week later, O'Connor won the National 20 km in Seattle in 1:26:21, a U.S. best ever and 7 minutes ahead of John VanDenBrandt. . . In Mexico, Daniel Bautista went through 15,121 meters in an hour, and 4 days later did 20 km in 1:20:59 (at 4700 feet altitude). Soviets were second in both races—Anatoliy Solomin with 15,042 meters and Nikolai Vinnetschenko in 1:21:30. . . In a swift Spanish National 50, Jose Marin did 3:43:35 and Jorge Llopart 3:45:55. . . Sue Brodock had the fastest ever 20 km by an American with her 1:45:20.

15 Years Ago (From the April 1985 ORW)—Overtaking Tim Lewis in the final 10 km, Carl Schueler won the National 30 km in 2:26:17, 2 minutes ahead of Lewis. . . Two weeks later, Lewis won the National 25 in Washington, D.C., in 1:52:55, nearly 6 1/2 minutes ahead of Dave Cummings. . . At the same site, Teresa Vaill won the Women's National 20 in 1:44:29 with Sue Liers second.

10 Years Ago (From the April 1990 ORW)—Tim Lewis, dominant at 20 km, was a surprise winner of the National 50 in 4:10:46, nearly 6 minutes ahead of Marco Evoniuk. Mark Manning, Mark Fenton, Eugene Kitts, and Dan O'Connor followed. . . The Mortland Invitational 20 km in Columbus, went to Gary Morgan in 1:32:07 with Steve Pecinovsky second in 1:34:12, but the big news was 58-year-old Max Green in seventh with 1:43:41, a world best for those over 55. Zofia Wolan won the women's 10 km in 49:30. . . In the National Invitational walks, Teresa Vaill and Tim Lewis walked to victory. Vaill did 46:21 for 10 km, leaving Sue Liers more than 4 minutes back. Lewis covered the 20 in 1:28:05 with Richard Quinn (1:29:47) and Curt Clausen (1:30:17) following.

5 Years Ago (From the April 1995 ORW)—Dave McGovern and Victoria Herazo were winners at the National Invitational in 1:28:02 and 46:26, respectively. Philip Dunn finished just 18 seconds after McGovern and Ian Whatley also snuck under 1:30. Relative newcomer, Joanne Dow was second to Herazo in 47:43, just 5 seconds ahead of Canada's Pascal Grand. . . In the Pan-Am Games in Argentina, Mexico's Graciela Mendoza won the women's 10 km in 46:32, just 5 seconds ahead of Michelle Rohl. The 50 went to Carlos Mercenario, Mexico, in 3:47:55 with his teammate Miguel Rodriguez second in 3:48:22 and Guatemala's Julio Urias third in 3:49:37. Allen James did 3:59:27 in sixth. Ecuador's Jefferson Perez won the 20 when Mexico's Bernardo Segura, who just stayed ahead of him at the finish, was DQ'd. Daniel Garcia, Mexico was second, but we didn't have times for the race.



The old guys. Your editor (2nd from left) and four-time Olympian Ron Laird to his right during the autograph signing portion of a Leukemia Society fund raiser, Breakfast With the Champions, in Columbus. The first person on the left is Greg Lashutka, 1965 Ohio State football captain, who just completed his second, and final term, as mayor of Columbus. Three more OSU footballers fill out this portion of the lineup. The only other track and field Olympian on hand was Les Carney, Ohio University, 1960 Olympic 200 meter silver medalist.

The Master In Action

Although his best times may pale in comparison to performances today, Vladimir Golubnichiy must still rank as the top 20 km walker of all time. Consider the amazing competitive record and longevity of this Soviet ace, who also ranked as a true sportsman in every sense of the word. He first came on the scene in 1955, when, at the age of 19, he had the world's second fastest time for the year—1:30:02.8. Three years later, he really made his mark when he broke the world's record on the track with a 1:27:05 on September 23. A year later (Sept. 15, 1959) he bettered that mark with a 1:25:13.2 in Odessa. Then began his amazing Olympic odyssey: 1960, Rome—1st 1:34:07.2; 1964, Tokyo—3rd 1:31:59.4; 1968, Mexico City—1st 1:33:58.4; 1972, Munich—2nd, 1:26:55.2, 1976, Montreal—7th, 1:29:24.6. The latter race was his swan song at age 40. In 1974, at 38, he won the European title and was ranked No. 1 in the world. He was a frequent and popular competitor in the US-USSR meets of that era, winning six times. He competed in only two Lugano Cups (the Soviets did not enter until 1967) and finished second both times (1967 and 1970). The following sequence, taken from the British book *Race Walking* by Julian Hopkins (1976), showcases Vladimir's flawless style.

