

# OHIO RACEWALKER



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## 31st Annual ORW Rankings

What follows marks, I thought, the thirtieth time your editor has stepped out on the a limb to inform the world of how its top walkers rank. For years, I have been saying these rankings began in 1971. But after originally typing that lead sentence, I was looking back and found I actually started in 1970. Wow! There's one of the biggest mistakes in a publication known for its mistakes. So welcome to the 31st Annual ORW Rankings.

I was also going to say that my rankings were inspired by the absence of the walks from Track and Field News' annual rankings, which I had been following since 1953. But, in looking back at the introduction to my 1970 rankings, I see that they were actually the result of T&FN adding the walks to their rankings that year. Bob Bowman was named their walking editor and he contacted Colin Young in England and me to help him compile rankings at 20 and 50 Km. Since I spent a good deal of time putting mine together, I decided I may as well use them in my own publication, effectively scooping T&FN, since I was on the streets with my December issue before their January issue. Colin and I continue to help Bob some 30 years later, and I continue to publish my own version. The T&FN rankings are a consensus of three brilliant minds; the ORW's are purely and arbitrarily mine.

In 1973, I added U.S. rankings (a year after T&FN) and in 1979 added women's rankings at 5 and 10 km as women's competition finally began to proliferate. The ORW always covered women's events, but they were too sparse to justify rankings. (T&FN didn't rank the women until 1986.) In 1985, we dropped the women's 5 km as the 10 had become the predominant international distance. And last year, we changed the women's rankings to 20, rather than 10, for the same reason. The rankings are based on performance throughout the year, with emphasis on major competitions and head-to-head races. Next month, we will carry lists of the fastest times, both in the World and in the U.S.

### 2000 World 20 Km Rankings--Women

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Wang Liping, China<br>1:28:33 (1) Dalian 6/3<br>1:29:05 (1) Oly. Games 9/23   | 1:29:20 (1) Naumburg 4/23<br>DQ Oly. Games 9/28   |
| 2. Kjersti Platzer, Norway<br>1:32:52 (10) Naumburg 4/30<br>1:29:39 (1) Turku 5/21<br>1:27:54 (3) Euro Cup 6/17<br>1:29:33 (2) Oly. Games 9/28 | 4. Olimpiada Ivanova, Russia<br>1:28:52 (3) Adler 2/20<br>1:26:06 (5) Russian Ch. 5/19<br>1:26:48 (1) Euro Cup 6/17 |
| 3. Liu Hongyu, China<br>1:27:55 (1) Rio Maior 4/25<br>1:28:40 (1) Leamington 4/23  | 5. Maria Vasco, Spain<br>DNF<br>1:30:20 (4) Leamington 4/23<br>DNF Euro Cup 6/17<br>1:30:23 (3) Oly. Games 9/28     |

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Approximate deadline for submission of material is the 20th of the month, but it is usually the 25th or later before we go to the printer, so later material will probably get in.

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6. Erica Alfridi, Italy         | 1:31:38 (5) Naumburg 4/30        |
| 1:30:36 (2) Australian Ch. 2/26 | 1:30:49 (2) Copenhagen 5/5       |
| 1:29:10 (1) Taranto 3/12        | 1:30:54 (2) Turku 5/21           |
| DNF Leamington 4/23             | 1:31:33 (5) Oly. Games 9/28      |
| 1:28:06 (4) Euro Cup 6/17       |                                  |
| 1:31:25 (4) Oly. Games 9/28     | 9. Norica Cimpean, Romania       |
| 7. Elisabetta Perrone, Italy    | 1:28:59 (6) Euro Cup             |
| 1:30:36 (2) Australian Ch. 2/26 | 1:31:50 (6) Oly. Games 9/28      |
| 1:29:10 (2) Taranto 3/12        |                                  |
| 1:30:14 (3) Leamington 4/23     | 10. Kerry Saxby-Junna, Australia |
| 1:27:42 (2) Euro Cup 6/17       | 1:33:51 (4) Australian Ch. 2/26  |
| DQ Oly. Games 9/28              | 1:29:36 (2) Naumburg 4/30        |
|                                 | 1:32:02 (7) Oly. Games 9/28      |
| 8. Guadalupe Sanchez, Mexico    |                                  |
| 1:34:39 (1) Pan Am Cup 4/8      |                                  |
| DQ Leamington 4/23              |                                  |

Liping with her Olympic victory and fast time in her other race earns the number one spot. .Platzer started her season slowly, but beat a good field at Turku, was a strong third in the Euro Cup, and topped her season with the Olympic silver. .Hongyu with her three fast wins, including Naumburg where she won decisively over a field including Platzer, Sanchez, and Saxby-Junna, gets the nod for third despite her DQ in Sydney. .Ivanova had two fast races at home, although losing to several of her countrywomen, then destroyed a strong Euro Cup field, leaving second place Elisabetta Perrone 54 seconds and Platzer 65 seconds back in third. She rates the nod for fourth over Vasco and Alfridi, who she also beat in that race. .Vasco failed to finish two races, but beat Alfridi decisively in Sydney. They had traded wins over each other earlier, as one or the other failed to finish (Leamington and Euro Cup). .Alfridi had three strong races leading up to her fourth in Sydney. .Perrone, while never winning, had four fast races with high finishes in strong fields before her Sydney DQ and rates the seventh spot. .The final three are rated off their Olympic finishes and good supporting races. Just missing out is Jane Saville, who was so close to the Olympic gold before her DQ. But while she had a great race in Copenhagen winning in 1:30:49, she lost to Sanchez twice and split two races with Saxby-Junna prior to Sydney, and with her DQ, they beat her there.

#### 2000 U.S. Women's 20 Km Rankings

- |                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Michelle Rohl           | 1:32:39 (1) US Champ. 7/15   |
| 1:37:49 (8) Pan Am Cup 4/8 | 1:34:26 (17) Oly. Games 9/28 |
| 1:31:51 (1) Kenosha 5/13   |                              |

- |                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2. Yueling Chen                    | 7. Susan Armenta             |
| 1:35:46 (1) Chula Vista 1/23       | 1:43:42 (4) Chula Vista 1/23 |
| 1:33:40 (2) US Champ. 7/15         | 1:39:54 (2) Sacramento 2/12  |
| 1:39:36 (38) Oly. Games 9/28       | 1:39:55 (10) Pan Am Cup 4/8  |
|                                    | 1:38:14 (23) Naumburg 4/30   |
| 3. Debbi Lawrence                  | 1:34:44 (1) Kenosha 6/3      |
| 1:34:41 (2) Kenosha 5/13           | 1:43:17 (10) US Champ. 7/15  |
| 1:33:48 (3) US Champ. 7/15         |                              |
| 1:47:20 (44) Oly. Games 9/28       | 8. Jill Zenner               |
|                                    | 1:46:33 (3) Sacramento 2/12  |
| 4. Joanne Dow                      | 1:43:57 (15) Pan Am Cu- 4/8  |
| 1:36:17 (4) US Champ. 7/15         | 1:34:50 (2) Kenosha 6/3      |
|                                    | 1:38:54 (7) US Champ. 7/15   |
| 5. Sara Stevenson                  | 9. Sara Standley             |
| 1:35:22 (3) Kenosha 5/13           | DQ Pan Am Cup 4/8            |
| 1:37:36 (5) US Champ. 7/15         | 1:42:38 (29) Naumburg 4/30   |
| 1:39:55 (2) N. & C. Amer. Under 25 | 1:36:39 (4) Kenosha 6/3      |
|                                    | 1:38:38 (6) US Champ. 7/15   |
| 6. Danielle Kirk                   | 10. Gretchen Eastler-Fishman |
| 1:39:27 (2) Chula Vista 1/23       | 1:40:24 (?) Pan Am Cup 4/8   |
| 1:38:20 (1) Sacramento 2/12        | 1:36:25 (3) Kenosha 6/3      |
| 1:41:10 (12) Pan Am Cup 4/8        | 1:41:24 (9) US Champ. 7/15   |
| 1:36:46 (21) Naumburg 4/30         |                              |
| 1:40:49 (8) US Champ. 7/15         |                              |

Rohl repeats and is number one for the fifth ('94,'95,'96,'99,'00) and the first five fall easily into place off their finishes in the US Championship/Olympic Trials. .The next five deviate from that pattern. Kirk and Armenta both faltered a bit in the Trials, but had clearly superior records to the others the rest of the season with Kirk beating Armenta four of five times to earn sixth. .Zenner had beaten Standley twice before the Trials, so Sara's close win there was not enough to nudge her into eighth. But she did beat Eastler-Fishman—who had also beaten her twice earlier—decisively to take the ninth spot. Just out of the rankings was Teresa Vaill, who won the National Invitational in a quick 1:35:45, but was DQ'd in her only other race, the Trials.

#### 2000 World 20 Km Rankings--Men

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Robert Korzeniowski, Poland  | 4. Andreas Erm, Germany           |
| 1:18:29 (1) Euro Cup 6/17       | 1:20:30 (1) Naumburg 4/30         |
| 1:18:22 (1) Hildsheim 7/9       | 1:18:42 (2) Euro Cup 6/17         |
| 1:20:52 (1) Pol. Champ. 8.5     | 1:20:25 (5) Oly. Games 9/22       |
| 1:18:59 (1) Oly. Games 9.22     |                                   |
| 2. Noe Hernandez, Mexico        | 5. Jefferson Perez, Ecuador       |
| 1:22:47 (2) Pan Am Cup 4/8      | 1:30:50 (1) So. Amer. Champ. 3/18 |
| 1:19:03 (2) Oly. Games 9/22     | 1:24:36 (4) Pan Am Cup 4/8        |
|                                 | DNF Naumburg 4/30                 |
|                                 | 1:22:29t(1) Bergen 5/6            |
| 3. Vladimir Andreyev, Russia    | 1:20:30 (1) Turku 5/21            |
| 1:18:16 (2) Russian Champ. 5/19 | 1:20:56t(1) La Jolla 8/19         |
| 1:19:27 (3) Oly. Games 9/22     | 1:20:18 (4) Oly. Games 9/22       |



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 6. Roman Rassakov, Russia<br>1:18:07 (1) Adler 2/20<br>1:17:46 (1) Russian Champ. 5/19(short)<br>1:20:57 (6) Oly. Games 9/22   | 8. Nathan Deakes, Australia<br>1:21:47 (1) Australian Champ. 2/26<br>1:21:03 (8) Oly. Games 9/22   |
| 7. Francisco Fernandez, Spain<br>1:22:02 (1) Cehegin 2/20<br>1:24:51 (1) Guadix 4/2<br>1:20:18 (1) Leamington 4/23<br>1:23:00 (1) L'Hospitalet 4/30<br>1:22:50 (2) Calella 5/7<br>1:18:56 (3) Euro Cup 6/17<br>1:22:33 (1) Span. Champ. 9/2<br>1:21:01 (7) Oly. Games 9/22 | 9. Alessandro Gandolini, Italy<br>1:20:28 (3) Leamington<br>1:21:14 (9) Oly. Games 9/22  |
|  | 10. Alejandro Lopez, Mexico<br>1:24:43 (5) Pan Am Cup 4/8<br>1:21:02 (4) Naumburg 4/30<br>1:20:09 (1) Copenhagen 5/6<br>1:20:50 (2) Turku 5/21 |

Korzeniowski, with his gold medal, undefeated record, and series of fast times is clearly number one. He has been ranked at 20 Km six times previously, but never higher than fifth (1990 and 1998). . . The other places largely follow the finish order in Sydney. One exception is Erm moving ahead of Perez off his win at Naumburg, where Perez failed to finish, and his impressive race in the Euro Cup. But Perez stays in the top five for the fifth straight year--he ranked 1, 2, 2, and 4 from 1996 through 1999. The other exception to the Olympic finish is Lopez moving ahead of Australia's 10th place Sydney finisher Nick AHern. Lopez beat AHern decisively in both Copenhagen and Turku, but didn't get the chance to compete in Sydney on Mexico's strong team. But he ranks ahead of his better known countryman, Bernardo Segura and Daniel Garcia, who both came up short in Sydney (DQ and 12th).

#### 2000 U.S. Men's 20 Km Rankings

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Tim Seaman<br>1:24:25 (1) Sacramento 2/12<br>DNF Pan Am Cup 4/8<br>1:37:13 (23) Naumburg 4/30<br>DQ Bergen 5/7<br>1:25:47 (9) Turku 5/21<br>1:25:41 (1) US Champ./OT 7/15<br>1:23:40(2) La Jolla 8/19<br>1:30:32 (40) Oly. Games 9/22 | 4. Kevin Eastler<br>1:26:09 (3) Sacramento 2/12<br>1:31:54 Pan Am Cup 4/8<br>1:28:05 (9) Bergen 5/7<br>1:26:38 (2) US Champ./OT 7/15<br>DNF La Jolla 8/19                             |
| 2. Curt Clausen<br>1:31:24 (3) Lima, Peru 3/18<br>1:29:59 Pan Am Cup 4/8<br>1:28:43 (15) Naumburg<br>1:23:56(3) Bergen 5/7   | 5. Sean Albert<br>1:28:51 (4) Sacramento 2/12<br>1:31:57 Pan Am Cup 4/8<br>1:31:12 (17) Naumburg 4/30<br>1:30:42 (12) Bergen 5/7<br>1:28:08 (13) Turku 5/4<br>DQ US Champ./OT 7/15    |
| 3. Andrew Hermann<br>1:30:50 (2) Lima, Peru 3/18<br>1:26:39 (7) Pan Am Cup<br>1:26:35(6) Bergen 5/7<br>1:25:05 (6) La Coruna 5/20<br>1:28:06 (3) US Champ./OT 7/15   | 6. Philip Dunn<br>1:36:00 (7) Lima 3/18<br>1:35:10 Pan Am Cup 4/8<br>1:31:58 (18)Naumburg 4/30<br>1:30:55 (13)Bergen 5/7<br>1:32:39 (5) US Champ./OT 7/15<br>1:34:30(3) La Jolla 8/19 |

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 7. Mike Rohl<br>1:34:11 (4) Nat. Inv. 4/2<br>1:32:34 (4) US Champ./OT 7/15 | 9. Ian Whatley<br>1:22:18 (3) Nat. Inv. 4/2<br>1:32:26 (1) Oregon City 5/6<br>1:37:37 Palo Alto 5/17<br>1:33:28 (7) US Champ./OT 7/15 |
| 8. John Nunn<br>1:29:25 (2) Nat. Inv. 4/2<br>1:32:57 (6) US Champ./OT 7/15 | 10. Dave McGovern<br>DNF<br>1:35:38 (8) US Champ./OT 7/15   |

After a good opening race, Seaman had a bad time for a few races, but came on strong starting in Turku and rates the first spot with his win at the Nationals and American record on the track a month later. He unseats Clausen, who had been at the top the past four years. His eight races at the distance match Spain's Francisco Fernandez for work horse honors. . . Clausen, while concentrating on his 50 km training, still beat Seaman every time they raced and also bettered the American record. But, he didn't have the national title (too bad he couldn't have raced that one to settle the issue), nor, ultimately, the record, nor as impressive a set of times. . . Hermann is close to Clausen for the second spot, beating him twice, but Curt was decisive in his American record race. . . Eastler was second in the Olympic Trials race and beat Sean Albert each time they raced and is a clear fourth. . . Albert was DQd at the Trials, but beat Philip Dunn every other time they raced, so he takes fifth over Dunn. . . Mike Rohl only had two races, but his fourth place in the Trials earns him seventh. . . The last three are rated on their finishes at the Trials.

#### 2000 World 50 Km Rankings--Men

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Robert Korzeniowski, Poland<br>3:41:50 (1) Pnte de Sor 3/5<br>3:42:22 (1) Oly. Games 9/29           | 6. Nathan Deakes, Australia<br>3:47:29 (6) Oly. Games 9/29  |
| 2. Aigars Fadejevs, Latvia<br>3:43:40 (2) Oly. Games. 9//29  | 7. Miguel Angel Rodriguez, Mexico<br>3:43:51 (1) Pan Am Cup 4/9<br>3:48:12 (7) Oly. Games 9/29                |
| 3. Joel Sanchez, Mexico<br>3:47:55 (2) Pan Am Cup 4/9<br>3:44:36 (3) Oly. Games 9/29                   | 8. Roman Magdziarczyk, Poland<br>3:51:44 (1) Podebrady 4/16<br>3:48:17 (8) Oly. Games 9/29                    |
| 4. Valentin Massana, Spain<br>DNF Cieza 3/19<br>3:46:01 (4) Oly. Games 9/29                            | 9. Modris Liepins, Latvia<br>3:48:36 (9) Oly. Games 9/29  |
| 5. Nikolay Matyukhin, Russia<br>3:42:02 (3) Russian Champ. 5/21 (short)<br>3:46:37 (5) Oly. Games 9/29 | 10. Yang Yongjian, China<br>3:56:01 (3) Shengzin 5/7<br>3:54:13 (2) Dalian 6/3<br>3:48:42 (10)Oly. Games 9/29 |

This is Korzeniowski's third number one (also '96 and '98) and he also has a second and a third. There seemed to be no reason to rank the walkers any different than their finish in Sydney. The only performance that stands out, other than the short course Russian championship, is the Eruo Cup winning performance of Spain's Jesus Garcia (3:42:51), but he finished just 12th in Sydney, so I can't justify moving him ahead of any of the others.

**2000 U.S. 50 Km Rankings--Men**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Curt Clausen<br>3:56:16 (1) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>3:58:39 (22) Oly. Games 9/29   | 6. Gary Morgan<br>4:37:02 (6) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>5:02:06 (18) Pan Am Cup 4/9      |
| 2. Andrew Hermann<br>3:57:54 (2) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>4:07:18 (31) Oly. Games 9/29 | 7. Mark Green<br>4:50:46 (7) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>4:39:03 (15) Pan Am Cup 4/9       |
| 3. Philip Dunn<br>4:07:00 (3) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>4:03:05 (28) Oly. Games 2/29    | 8. Theron Kissinger<br>5:06:37 (9) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>4:51:30 (17) Pan Am Cup 4/9 |
| 4. Jonathan Matthews<br>4:21:39 (4) Oly. Trials 2/13                              | 9. Ric Holt<br>5:00:06 (1) Houston 1/2   |
| 5. Andrzej Chylinski<br>4:26:07 (5) Oly. Trials 2/29                              | 10. Will Leggett<br>5:05:01 (8) Oly. Trials 2/13<br>5:04:50 (19) Pan Am Cup 4/9    |

Clausen tops the ranking for the third straight year. The only changes from the Olympic Trials finish is Theron Kissinger moving up off his Pan Am Cup race and Ric Holt taking ninth from Will Leggett off a race in Houston at the very start of the year.

**Results**

**5 Km, New York City, Nov. 26--1.** Bill Vayo 25:06 **2.** Nick Bdera (51) 25:56 **3.** Jose Perez 26:36 **4.** Gary Null (55) 27:31 **5.** Arnis Paeglis (50) 28:11 **6.** Israel Soto-Duprey 28:18 **7.** Bob Barrett (67) 28:49 **8.** Franaco Pantoni (40) 29:25 **9.** David Wolf (40) 29:29 **10.** Luannes Pennesi (45) 29:30 **11.** E. Anthony Mackall (52) 29:58 (23 finishers) **5 Km, New York City, Dec. 3--1.** Andreas Gustafsson (19, Sweden) 21:22 **2.** John Soucek 23:41 **3.** Bill Vayo 24:42 **4.** Nick Bdera 25:32 **5.** Shawn Frederick (47) 26:36 **6.** Arnis Paeglis 27:34 **7.** Israel Soto-Duprey 28:00 **8.** Alice Tan (17) 28:04 **9.** David Wolf (Having celebrated a birthday, now 41) 28:26 **10.** Christina Farrell (12) 28:29 **11.** Bob Barrett 28:59 **12.** Alena Zelanova (18) 29:10 **13.** Sherry Brosnahan (48) 29:36 **14.** Elba Melendez (17) 30:07 **15.** Dona Vered (12) 30:50 (39 finishers, 3 DQs) **5 Km, Newport News, Vir., Nov. 23--1.** George Fenigsohn (53) 28:50 **2.** Harry Watson (59) 29:14 **1 Hour, Conway, S.C., Nov. 18--1.** Ian Whatley 13,367 meters **5 Km, Pharr, Texas, Dec. 10--1.** Sherry Brosnahan 27:59 **2.** Delisa Guadarrama-Edinburg 32:57 **Men--1.** Christopher Diaz (14) 27:25 **2.** Dave Romansky (62) 28:08 **3.** Pete Romero (65) 28:39 **4.** David Almarez (13) 31:21 (120 competitors, including youth 1500 meter races) **2.8 Miles, Seattle, Nov. 11--1.** Stan Chraminski 24:36 **2.** Bart Kale 25:10 **3.** Joslyn Slaughter 26:38 **4.** Bev LaVeck 26:58 **1/2 Marathon, Seattle, Nov. 25--1.** Stan Chraminski 2:10:02 **2.** Bob Novak 2:10:50 **3.** Joslyn Slaughter 2:11:32 **4.** Bev LaVeck 2:11:51 **3 Km, Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 14--1.** Bradley Malcolm 12:21.70 **2.** Dominic McGrath 12:28 **3.** Marcus Dwyer 12:32 **4.** Duane Cousins 12:44 **Women--1.** Simone Wolowicz 13:18.90 **2.** Wendy Muldoon 13:41 **15 Km, Celorica de Beira, Portugal, Dec. 9--1.** Joao Vieira 1:06:48 **2.** Pedor Martins 1:09:07 **Women's 10 Km, same place--1.** Susana Feitor 45:48 **20 Km, Tunes, Portugal, Dec. 16--1.** Susanna Feitor 1:39:09 **2.** Ines Henriques, same time **Women's 50 Km, Domenica, Italy, Oct. 29--1.** Natalia Bruniko 4:52:29 **2.** Silvia Panseri 5:01:58 **3.** Henrietta Rusnakova 5:03:11 (8 finishers)

**Races for the new millennium** (now that it's actually here)

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Mon. Jan. 1  | 2 Miles, Albuquerque (I)<br>5 Km, Denver, 9 am (H)  |
| Sun. Jan. 7  | South Region 50 Km, Houston (O)<br>10 Km, Denver, 9 am (H)<br>7.4 and 3.2 Miles, Las Cruces, N.M. (I)   |
| Sat. Jan. 13 | 5 Km, Ocean Township, N.J., 10 am (A)<br>2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C)   |
| Sun. Jan. 14 | 5 Km, Denver, 9 am (H)<br>Indoor 3 Km, Arlington, Vir., 7:45 am (J)   |
| Sun. Jan. 21 | 5 Km, Denver, 10 am (H)   |
| Fri. Jan. 26 | Indoor 3 Km, Findlay, Ohio (M)  |
| Sat. Jan. 27 | 5 Km, Ocean Twp., N.J. (A)  |
| Sun. Jan. 28 | Rose Bowl 10 Mile Handicap, Pasadena, Cal. (Y)<br>Indoor 5 Km Men, 3 Km Women, Toronto (Z)<br>5 Km, Denver, 9 am (H)<br>Indoor 3 Km, Arlington, Vir., 7:45 am (J)<br>5 Km, Las Cruces, N.M. (I) |
| SUn. Feb. 4  | Las Vegas 1/2 Marathon (P)  |
| Sat. Feb. 10 | 5 Km, Ocean Twp. N.J. (A)<br>1500 meters and 5 Km, Alamo, Texas, 8 am (K)   |
| Sun. Feb. 11 | Indoor 3 Km, Arlington, Vir., 7:45 am (J)<br>Really Chilly 5 Km, London, Ontario (Z)  |
| Sun. Feb. 18 | 5 Km, South Padre Island, Texas, 9:30 am (K)<br>Ontario Indoor Championships, 3 Km Women, 5 Km Men, Toronto (Z)   |
| Sat. Feb. 24 | 5 Km, Ocean Twp., N.J. (A)<br>5 and 10 Km, Washington, D.C. (J)<br>Southeastern Regional Masters 10 Km, 9 am, North Augusta, S.C. (L)   |
| Sun. Feb. 25 | Ohio Indoor 3 Km Championship, Findlay (M)  |
| Sat. March 3 | USATF Indoor Nationals, Atlanta<br>Ontario Indoor Masters 3 Km, Totonto (Z)   |
| Sun. March 4 | 1/2 Marathon, Chico, Cal. (E)   |

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## 2000 USATF Nationals

5 Km (Indoor) Sat. March 3, Atlanta  
 Masters 3 Km (Indoors) March 25, Boston  
 50 Km Sat. March 31, 7:30 am, Washington, D.C.  
 15 Km June 3, Evansville, Indiana  
 20 Km June 23, Eugene, Oregon (Qualifying standards 1:36 men, 1:48 women)  
 30 Km July 22, Kenosha, Wisconsin  
 10 Km August 19, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania  
 40 Km September, Ft. Monmouth, N.J.  
 5 Km September 22, Kingsport, Tennessee  
 1Hr and 2 Hr October 7, Worcester, Massachusetts  
 Masters 20 Km November 4, Coconut Creek, Florida  
 (Information on contacts will follow on our future schedules)

## From Heel to Toe

**National Invitational and 50 Km.** The National 50 Km and World Championship qualifier 50 Km will be held in conjunction with the the annual National Invitational Racewalks in Washington, D.C or thereabouts. The 50 will be on Saturday, March 31 at 7:30 am. National Invitational events on Sunday, April 1 include the elite 20 Km for men and women, a collegiate 10 Km for men and women, a junior men's 10 km, a junior women's 5 km, and open 5 Km, and a youth 3 Km. The 20s will start at 10 am, preceded by all the other races at 8:30. For further information, contact Bob Briggs by e-mail at [inhousebob@att.net](mailto:inhousebob@att.net). . **Racewalk committee posts.** At the annual USATF convention held in Albuquerque in early November, the Racewalking Committee elected officers for the next two years. Dan Pierce, Colorado, is replacing Rich Torrellas as Chairman and Rob Cole, New York, is vice chairman. Pierce has been vice chairman and Cole treasurer for the past two years. Both had successful competitive careers. Dan was consistently rated among the top 10 U.S. 50 Km walkers for several years starting in 1985 with a best of 4:18:00 in 1988. Rob was on our 1995 World Cup team at 20 km and on 1994 (50 Km) and 1996 (20 Km) Pan Am Cup teams. His bests were 1:27:50 and 4:13:25. The new secretary is Shirley Clemens, from Colorado, and the treasurer is our present top walker, Curt Clausen. Board members are Tom Eastler, Maine; Dave McGovern, Alabama; Allen James, New York; Darlene Hickman, Washington; Steve Vaitones, Massachusetts; and Ginger Mulanax, Missouri, all well known for their many contributions to the sport as competitors, administrators, and/or officials. . **Shoes.** People always ask about the best shoes for walking. Here is a release from New Balance, whose shoes have been well accepted, and one of the few manufacturers to make a shoe specifically designed for racewalking: "In the rich market of racewalking, New Balance is pleased to introduce its second ever racewalking shoe. An update to the existing MRW/WRW 100, the new MRW/WRW 110 features the same midsole/outsole unit, but with a slight tweak to the

durometer (thickness/hardness) of the EVA to further enhance the cushioning properties. 'Additionally, we changed from a combination last to a slip-last for a better, more snug fit. The result is a better ride, fit, and feel', says Joann Sacca associate product manager, walking. On the cosmetic front, the 100 was in need of a facelift, so the 110 incorporates bright, fast colors, reflectivity, and tech mesh. Although the volume of a shoe like the 110 is minimal, New Balance remains committed to developing racewalking products to further increase its support of the sport." I don't have any endorsements (or put downs) of the shoe from athletes yet, but the 100 received very favorable reviews. As I reported myself after some experience with a pair, while it was not satisfactory for me because of specialized personal needs of a decrepit old man, it seemed to be a shoe I would have welcomed warmly in my more competitive days. . **Masters awards.** Also announced at the convention were the Masters Racewalking Awards for 2000. The Outstanding Masters Awards, male and female, went to Jack Starr and Victoria Herazo. The age group awards went to: 35-39--Steve Renard and Kelly Murphy-Glenn; 40-44--Rod Craig and Victoria Herazo; 45-49--Stanley Sosnowski/Mike DeWitt and Sally Richards; 50-54--Richard McGuire and Gayle Johnson; 55-59--James Carmines/Rich Friedlander and Janet Higbie; 60-65--Paul Johnson and Elton Richardson/Bev LaVeck; 65-69--Jack Bray and Shirley Dockstader; 70-74--Jack Starr; 75-79--Masahsi Noritake/John Nervetti and Miriam Gordon; 80-84--Bill Tallmadge/Tim Dyas and Fan Benno-Carisl 85-89--Bill Patterson. Starr won all USATF Masters racewalk championships in his age group--3 km, 5 km, 5 km road, 15 km, 20 km, 1 Hour, and 30 km. Herazo won the USATF indoor 3 km, the 5 km, 5 km road, 10 km, 15 km, and 1 Hour, and the WAVA Regional 5 km in her age group. She set new American records for 1 Hour and 15 km. **Other awards.** Captain Ron Zinn Memorial Awards to outstanding racewalkers for 2000 went to Michelle Rohl (20 Km), Tim Seaman (20 Km), and Curt Clausen (50 Km). The Mike Riban Award for the Outstanding Contributor to Racewalking during 2000 was given to National Coach Enrique Pena. Ron Zinn, a West Point graduate, was a many times national champion from 1960 to 1964 and finished sixth in the 1964 Olympic 20 Km. He was killed in Vietnam the following spring. Mike Riban was the long-time coach and manager of the Green & Gold AC in Chicago and coached Zinn. A final racewalking committee award, that for the outstanding USATF Association, went to Maine. . **Pan Am Cup 2001.** The Pan Am Cup is scheduled for Lima, Peru Oct. 27-28. The South American Racewalk Championships will be held simultaneously. . **More on high altitude center.** This release from Racewalking International: High altitude training for America's elite racewalkers just became a little bit easier on the pocket book, according to an article in the *Inyo (Cal.) Register*. According to the article, Bishop's City Council voted 4 to 1 to provide funding for lodging while the team trains for important national and international events in the beautiful Owen's Valley on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevadas. Training sites may be available as soon as spring 2001, according to RWI CEO John MacLachlan, who engineered the RWI partnership with Bishop for a variety of reasons. Bishop was excited about having Olympic caliber walkers train in and around the city and it also provided the walkers with an altitude training site at a reasonable cost. While the city has not opted to pick up all the costs of training for the walkers, other Bishop area service groups have expressed interest in funding the balance. MacLachlan also told the Chamber of Commerce and community supporters that RWI plans to hold a series of miniature camps for youth groups and seniors from all over the U.S. While training at altitude was the primary selling point, MacLachlan noted that the scenery will be well worth the trip for the walkers visiting and training in Bishop. . **Scholarships for walkers.** Head cross country and track coach Shannon Grady has announced that United States International University in San Diego will be offering collegiate scholarships to incoming students, including racewalkers. The school is affiliated with the NAIA, which includes walks in its indoor and outdoor national championships. Main areas of study at the school include international business, education, psychology, and management, with both undergraduate and graduate degrees offered. Grady was an All-American and Academic All-American as a 1500 meter runner at the University of Florida. She earned her



master's degree in exercise physiology and served as assistant track and cross country at Florida. She has taught numerous anatomy and exercise physiology classes and is a certified massage therapist. She has served as an exercise physiologist for the U.S. Olympic Committee and the U.S. Women's Rowing Team. Assisting her with workouts and technique sessions for racewalkers will be Al Heppner a member of the U.S. Army's World Class Athlete Team and a U.S. National Racewalk Team member at the ARCO Olympic Training Center. For more information, you can check the school's web site at [www.usiu.edu](http://www.usiu.edu). . **Another Korzeniowski stat.** *Track & Field News* editor Garry Hill has uncovered an interesting fact on Poland's double-Olympic gold medalist Robert Korzeniowski that even such a compiler of statistics as Bob Bowman (or even your editor) had not noticed. He is the first walker to break 1:19 three times in a year and the first since 1987 to even do it twice. That along with his double in Sydney should make him a leading candidate for track and field athlete of the year. But don't bet on it. We might be lucky if he even lands in the first ten. As Bob notes, it he doesn't get it no walker ever will unless "they win both walks in the Olympics, remain unbeaten in the walks, and win another event like the pole vault!" . . **Training weekend.** Viisha Sedlak and the American Walking Association will conduct a walkers training weekend and AWA walk coach certification program in Boulder, Colorado on Feb. 3 and 4, 2001. Walkers of all ages and abilities are invited. The program includes evaluation of form, diet, and training program, and covers walking biomechanics and training schedules, nutrition, mental training techniques, motivation, recovery work, stretches and drills, and racing strategies. The walkers weekend costs \$175 and the coaches certification program \$225. Contact the American Walking Association, P.O. Box 20491, Boulder, CO 80308; 303-938-9531, [viisha@americanwalk.org](mailto:viisha@americanwalk.org). . **The long stuff.** Commenting on our bit on transcontinental walks in last month's issue, New Zealand's ultra-distance guru, Dudley Harris doubts that there is an organization that monitors and tracks such walks. He goes on: "However, some folk may have persuaded the *Guinness Book of Records* to accept their claims. If cross-English Channel swims were used as an example, then it would seem that the 'rules' would specify from anywhere on the West Coast of the USA to anywhere on the East Coast, or vice versa. Taking the practice of Britain's Land's End to John O'Groats travellers, then pedestrians should obtain 'sighting certificates' from local folk along the route to sign that they had seen the athlete at a certain time on a particular day in that place. It's not fool-proof, but doing so every x-hours or y-miles should support any claim to fame. The real problem is authentication that the traveller was, for a start, a pedestrian; and, within that, *walked* all the way. Then there are the questions of what constitutes a continuous walk (or run)? At least one runner on a round-Australia trip set himself the requirement to complete a specified minimum distance on each and every day." (Ed. As I recall, John Lees walk across the U.S. was well-monitored, he did upwards of 50 miles every day, and there was little doubt that it was a legitimate walking feat.) Dudley also commented on the John Kelly item, with notes on Centurions. He says: "John Kelly is not only USA Centurion C-38, his qualifying walk in Chigwell, Essex in 1956 of 22:53:07 earned him the English number C-376. Another USA Centurion is Christopher Clegg C-7. Chris, who now lives in Santa Monica and who is 83 years young, hasn't caught the public eye like John Kelly (Ed. But he has been featured in these pages). But for many years (probably from 1975), Chris held the most Centurion 'badges' in the world: England C-135, USA C-7, Australia C-11, and Holland C-53. It wasn't until 1999 that England's Sandra Brown equalled his tally (by adding New Zealand in July and Australia in September) to England and Holland and then going ahead with a fifth qualification in Golden, Colorado in September of this year, becoming the first person to qualify in all five Centurion countries."

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Despite Robert Korzeniowski's outstanding efforts in Sydney, our sport might have received more bad press than good during and following the Olympics because of so-called 'judging controversies'. Dave McGovern is an astute observer of racewalking from an insider's

position. He wrote the following to explore these 'bad press' issues. Dave is a member of the US National Team, a racewalking coach, and the author of *The Complete Guide to Racewalking* and *The Complete Guide to Marathon Walking*. He has a web site at [www.surf.to/worldclass](http://www.surf.to/worldclass).

## Racewalking's Bad Image; Impending Solutions

by Dave McGovern

From a racewalker's perspective, the recent Olympic walks were among the most exciting in the history of the Games. To the rest of the world, they were a confusing, farcical mess.

The sport seems to get along just fine in the off years, but then every quadrennium, like clockwork, all hell breaks loose when the world is watching. The millennial edition of the Games certainly didn't disappoint in that regard.

In the men's 20 Km, world-record holder Bernardo Segura of Mexico sprinted across the finish line ahead of Robert Korzeniowski of Poland, but was disqualified several minutes later after his victory lap while receiving a congratulatory phone call from Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo. Then, during the women's 20 Km, the top three walkers were disqualified one by one, with Aussie Jane Saville being pulled off the course within 200 meters of the finish before a stadium packed with stunned hometown fans. (Ed. I think she was actually pulled just as she was about to enter the tunnel to the Stadium, but the crowd could see it happening on the giant screen.)

The developments befuddled spectators and prompted outgoing international Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch to question the future of the sport's inclusion on the Olympic program.

The media, predictably, accused the disqualified walkers of cheating. But in reality, that's like accusing a long-jumper of cheating if he misses his mark three times. The result in that case is the same: disqualification. Why then, when it happens to Marion Jones is it called a tragedy, but when it happens in the walks it's cheating?

The difference boils down to two basic problems; one of logistics, the other of public perception. In most track and field events, disqualifications are very easy to understand; two false starts, three missed heights, three wayward throws, and that's it: game over. The results are immediate.

But that's not always the case in racewalking. While the field events and sprints are fairly self-contained, the Olympic walks are often far from it. The athletes start on the track, but then head out to complete a series of loops on a course outside the stadium. Judges line the course to ensure that the athletes are walking properly. If three separate judges detect violations, the athlete is disqualified.

The problem under the current system is that only one judge, the head judge, is allowed to actually inform walkers they have been disqualified. If all goes according to plan, it's a good system. It prevents walkers from being pulled off the course accidentally. But, it also requires a lot of the head judge. He or she needs to verify that red cards have been turned in from three separate judges, then actually find the athlete in question, identified only by a race number somewhere on the 2-km course. When the course is close to the stadium, that's usually not a problem. But when the course lies over 1 km from the finish line at the track, the head judge has an awful lot of ground to cover and can't always get to the disqualified walker before the athlete gets into the stadium, as happened in the men's 20 km race this year.

Again, racewalkers understand this, but to the general public it's like telling the winning team in the World Series to hand over the trophy because the umpire decided 20 minutes after the game to call a third strike he saw back in the 7th inning.

If racewalking's logistical problems confuse the public, the sport's terminology leaves the casual observer dumbfounded. The name racewalking leads the press and the general public to



believe that the event is just a bunch of guys trying to walk fast, but biomechanically, there's a world of difference. In fact, racewalking is about as different from fast walking as it is from running. Even so, as soon as Joe Six-Pack hears that a walker has been disqualified, he automatically assumes that the athlete broke into a run, which is almost never the case. In most cases, Olympic-level athletes are disqualified for lifting, or failing to keep at least one foot on the ground at all time while walking.

It sounds simple enough, but again, the schism between the rules of the sport and public perception winds up giving racewalking a black eye. According to the wording of the rules, athletes may actually come off the ground a bit with each stride, as long as the 'flight phase' can't be detected by the human eye. That may sound dodgy, but it's no different from officials failing to call traveling in basketball, or umpires granting a generous strike zone in baseball.

The call is made by the human eye, and it's understood that there's a bit of a gray area between in an out. If an athlete comes close, but is not clearly off the ground, a judge may issue a 'caution', which doesn't count against the walker. On the other hand, if the athlete is clearly in violation of the rules, the judge can turn in a red card. Three of these and the athlete is disqualified.

Problem is, our terminology is a mess. It works out just fine in French or Italian or Spanish, but in the English language, a red card violation is called a 'warning', which, last time I checked means pretty much the same thing as caution in colloquial usage. Again, the walkers understand the terminology, but the casual observer can't make heads or tails of it. Other sports have similar problems with terminology, but it all makes sense if you grow up with the confusing language. Like in baseball, where if you fail to strike the ball it's called a strike, or in tennis where love means nothing, two aces don't make a deuce, and a point is actually 15, another gives you 30, and a third makes 40.

At the recent IAAF meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, the Walking Committee met to discuss possible rule changes for the sport, hoping to prevent similar spectacles from recurring. Most of the changes discussed involve the officials rather than the athletes, and deal with ways to speed the communication of disqualifications. Walkie talkies and linked palm pilots will become standard equipment, and more important, the task of removing disqualified athletes from the course will be extended to three designated judges rather than devolving solely to the head judge.

Also, the head judge will be stationed at the finish line to immediately disqualify violators before they can get on the horn to mom or the president. And the head judge will be able to disqualify flagrant violators even if they don't have prior red cards lodged against them. Terminology will also be looked at. The definition of racewalking will be clarified, and the choice of words to describe cautions and warnings will be examined. Another idea with less likelihood of passage is the recommendation to look into shoe alarms, devices that are designed to light up to signal lifting infractions. These devices have not performed reliably in tests, and raise questions about tampering, technological failure, and a host of other problems. With the exception of the shoe alarms, the new IAAF recommendations should reduce the number of controversial late-race disqualifications and may alleviate some of the confusion brought on by the sport's vague and confusing terminology. (Ed. The shoe alarms came up a few years ago and a supposedly reliable device was found sorely wanting in tests. More on the current (no pun intended) proposals next month.)

## Looking Back

**35 Years Ago** (From the December 1965 ORW)--Jack Blackburn won the annual Ft. Thomas, Ky. to Cincinnati Thanksgiving Day 6 mile (short) in 43:13 with Chuck Newell beating Wayne Yarcho for second. . Canadian Bert Life, age 56, won the Coney Island 10 1/2 mile handicap in

1:39:44 as Ron Daniel captured fast-time honors in 1:26:38. . Subscription rate to the ORW was \$1.20 per year.

**30 Years Ago** (From the December 1970 ORW)--The Ohio Racewalker gave its 1970 Dr. John H. Blackburn Award to Goetz Klopfer for his 2:34 20 mile effort. The award was given annually for the the outstanding single performance in U.S. racewalking during the year. . John Knifton won the Asbury Park, N.J. 10 miler in 1:19:12. . The ORW's First Annual Rankings were topped by East Germans Peter Frenkel at 10 and Christoph Honhne at 50. Following Frenkel were East Germany's Hans-Georg Reimann and Soviet Vladimir Golubnichiy. The next two at 50 were Veniamin Soldatenko, USSR, and Burkhard Leutsche, East Germany.

**25 Years Ago** (From the December 1975 ORW)--In the ORW Rankings, Mexico's Daniel Bautista led countryman Domingo Colin in the 20, with Karl-Heinz Stadtmuller, East Germany, ranked third. West Germany's Bernd Kannenberg led Soviets Veniamin Soldatenko and Yevgeniy Lungin at 50. . Top three in the U.S. rankings were Larry Young, Todd Scully, and Jerry Brown at 20, and Young, Augie Hirt, and John Knifton at 50.

**20 Years Ago** (From the December 1980 ORW)--Bautista again led the 20 Km rankings and his compatriot Raul Gonzales topped the 50. Following Bautista were Maurizio Damilano, Italy, and Pyotr Potsenchuk, USSR. In the 50, Dietmar Miesch and Hartwig Gauder, both of East Germany, were second and third. In the U.S. rankings, Marco Evoniuk and Jim Heiring were one-two at 20 and Carl Schueler and Evoniuk topped the 50. . On the lady's side, Australia's Sue Cook sat atop both the 5 and 10 km rankings. Sue Brodock of the U.S. was second an 5 and ninth at 10. Sweden's Ann Jansson ranked second in the 10. Brodock topped the U.S. rankings at both distances, ahead of Susan Liers and Jeanne Bocci, respectively. . Subscription rate was now \$4.00 per year.

**15 Years Ago** (From the December 1985 ORW)--Tom Edwards won the U.S. Indoor 5 Km at West Point on Dec. 22 in 21:18.9. Curtis Fisher and Dave McGovern followed. . The Women's World 10 Km Rankings were headed by Hang Yan, China; Ping Guan, China; and Olga Kristop, USSR. Top U.S. women were Maryanne Torrellas, Teresa Vaill, and Debbi Lawrence. In the Men's 20 Km, Jose Marin Spain; Maurizio Damilano, Italy; and Viktor Mostovik, USSR led the rankings. Hartwig Gauder, East Germany; Andrei Perlov, USSR; and Erling Anderson, Norway, were the 50 Km leaders. The U.S. rankings saw Tim Lewis, Marco Evoniuk, and Jim Heiring ranked one-two-three at 20, and Carl Schueler, Evoniuk, and Randy Mimm taking the top three spots at 50.

**10 Years Ago** (From the December 1990 ORW)--Gary Null, at age 45, won New York City races at 1 Mile (6:51) and 10 Km (48:55). . Australia's Kerry Saxby topped the ORW World Rankings at 10 Km, followed by Soviets Nadezhda Ryashkina and Olga Kardopoltseva. Top three in the U.S. were Debbi Lawrence, Lynn Weik, and Teresa Vaill. At 20 Km, Pavol Blazek, Czechoslovakia; Daniel Plaza, Spain; and Ernesto Canto, Mexico led the World Rankings, with Tim Lewis, Doug Fournier, and Steve Pecinovsky out front in the U.S. The 50 km Rankings saw Andrei Perlov, USSR; Bernd Gummelt, Germany; and Simon Baker, Australia, leading the World and Tim Lewis, Marco Evonkuk, and Eugene Kitts one-two-three in the U.S.

**5 Years Ago** (From the December 1995 ORW)--Herm Nelson turned in a good late season 20 Km on the track in Alexandria, Vir., beating Gary Morgan 1:27:07 to 1:27:38. Ian Whatley was third in 1:33:31. Yariv Pomeranz won a 50 km at the same time in 4:42:33. . Russia's Yelena Nikolayeva led the World 10 Km Rankings, ahead of Elisabetta Perrone, Italy, and Irina Stankina,



Russia. Michelle Rohl, Teresa Vail, and Debbi Lawrence took the first three spots in the U.S. rankings. At 20 Km, the World Rankings saw Michele Didoni, Italy; Zewen Li, China; and Mikhail Schennikov, Russia leading the way, and the U.S. Rankings were topped by Allen James, Herm Nelson, and Gary Morgan. At 50, it was Velentin Kononen, Finland; Giovanni Perricelli, Italy; and Robert Korzeniowski, Poland in the World Rankings, and James, Andrzej Chylinski, and Jonathan Matthews in the U.S. Rankings.

### Really Looking Back

**1934 European Championships, Turin, Italy, September 7-9:** 50 Km walk--1. Janis Dalins, Latvia 4:49:52.6 2. A. Schwab, Switzerland 4:53:08 3. E. Rivolta, Italy 4:54:05.4 4. M. Brignol, Italy 5:01:52.8 5. E. Laisne, France 5:08:40.6 6. J. Routsalainen, Finland

**1938 European Championships, Paris, September 3-5** 50 Km Walk--1. Harold Whitlock, England 4:41:51 2. H. Dill, Germany 4:43:54 3. E. Bruun, Norway 4:44:35 4. F. Bleiweiss, Germany 4:45:24 5. A. DeMastri, Italy 4:53:56 6. E. Segerstrom, Sweden 4:56:11

**1946 European Championships, Oslo, August 22-25:** 10 Km Walk--1. John Mikaelsson, Sweden 46:05.2 2. A. Schwab, Switzerland 47:03.6 3. E. Maggi, France 48:10.4 4. L. Chevalier, France 49:37.8 5. J. Andersen, Norway 49:48 50 Km Walk--1. John Ljunggren, Sweden 4:38:20 2. H. Forbes, England 4:42:58 3. C. Megnin, England 4:57:04 4. O. Sponberg, Norway 5:00:27 5. H. Christensen, Denmark 5:03:18

**1950 European Championships, Burssels, August 23-27:** 10 Km Walk--1. F. Schwab, Switzerland 46:01.8 2. E. Maggi, France 46:16.8 3. J. Mikaelsson, Sweden 46:48.2 4. S. Cascino, Italy 48:46 5. L. Chevalier, France 49:03 6. R. DeLannoit, Belgium 50:22.6 50 Km--1. Guiseppe Dordoni, Italy 4:40:42.6 2. John Ljunggren, Sweden 4:43:25 3. V. Ljunggren, Sweden 4:49:28 4. Josef Dolezal, Czech. 4:55:49 5. J. Proctor, England 4:58:01 6. A. Cotton, England 5:03:30

**Romanian International Meet, October 1-3 1955:** 20 Km Walk--1. Josef Dolezal, Czechoslovakia 1:31:21 2. John Ljnggrn, Sweden 1:33:46 3. Nicolae Liga, Romania 1:34:34 4. Ion Baboie, Romania 1:35:14

**Romanian International Meet, September 15-17, 1956:** 20 Km Walk--1. Guiseppe Dordoni, Italy 1:34:37.2 2. Leonid Spirin and Mikhail Lavrov, USSR 1:35:26.4 4. Dumitryu Paraschivescu, Romania 1:35:38.4 5. Abdon Pamich, Italy 1:36:11.2 6. Ion Baboie, Romania 1:37:21.2

**Spartakiad, Erfurt, East Germany, September 1958:** 50 Km Walk--1. Ladislav Moc, Czechoslovakia 4:23:37.8 2. Sergei Lobastov, USSR 4:24:17 3. Milan Skront, Czech. 4:35:50.8



**Poland's Robert Korseniowski on his way.** (Photo on the left.) His way to what? His second 2000 Olympic gold and his second Olympic 50 Km gold. Here he leads Finland's Valentin Kononen who wound up on the sidelines with three red cards. Korzeniowski's win in 3:42:22 put him in the history books. (Elliott Denman photo)

**U.S. record holder Curt Clausen** (number 3260 photo on the right) gives it his best shot in the same race. Curt finished 22nd in 3:58:39. (Elliott Denman photo)