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Russians, Chinese Dominate at World Cup

Naumburg, Germany, May 1-2--In two classic 20 Km races, Ecuador's Jefferson Perez and Russia's Yelena Nikolayeva lived up to their favorites roles with devastating finishes to capture gold at the 21st edition of the World Cup of Racewalking. And, while Russia and China dominated the results, there were some positive signs of parity in the sport, as well.

In the five races--Junior 10 Km for men and women, 20 Km for men and women, and 50 Km for men--the Russians and Chinese each won two team titles and each had two other top three finishes. The Chinese were first in both 20 Km races, second in the 50, and third in the Junior Men's 10. The Russians won the Junior Women's 10 and the 50, and were second in both the Junior Men's 10 and the Women's 20. Mexico was the only other nation to score a team triumph--in the Junior Men's 10. However, five other nations--eight nations, in all--had a top three finish.

Individually, Russia captured five medals--three gold, one silver, one bronze--and China four--one gold, two silver, and one bronze. But five other nations shared the remaining six medals, with Spain capturing two.

The two 20 Km races, which came on the second day of the competition, proved to be the most interesting and exciting from a competitive viewpoint, although each in a different way. The 2003 World Champion, Yelena Nikolayeva, was out to destroy the field and earn another gold. At 5 Km, a lead group of 13 women went through in 22:05 to 22:10 with the rest of the field already disappearing in the distance. Nikolayeva, teammate Tatiana Gudkova, Italy's Elisa Rigau, and China's Hongjuan Song were at the front.

After another kilometer, just as Gudkova received a second warning, Nikolayeva threw down the challenge and only Song attempted to go with her. But the Russian's acceleration was too much even for the 20-year-old Chinese girl, who had the year's fastest time going into the race. Covering the second 5 in 21:24, Nikolayeva passed 10 km in 43:29 with Song 15 seconds back. The same group of 13 was still well clear of the rest of the field, but split up themselves by the surge up front. Germany's Melanie Seeger and Rigau had 43:52, Russia's Yuliya Voyevodina 43:53, Australia's Jane Saville and Ireland's Gillian O'Sullivan 44:06, China's Aihui Xu, Liping Wang (2000 Olympic winner) and Jiang Jing, along with Spain's Maria Vasco 44:07, Gudkova 44:08, and Russia's Tatyana Kozlova 44:09.

Nikolayeva moved relentlessly away over the next 2 laps (2.5 km laps) and, though slowing to 21:44 for that 5, increased her lead to 32 seconds as she passed 15 km in 1:05:13. Rigau had passed Song during that lap, but the Chinese girl came back on her and they were together in 1:05:45 at 15. Saville and O'Sullivan were locked in battle another 8 seconds back, with Jian and Vasco on their heels. Seeger and Wang led the rest, but were fading fast at 1:06:07 and 1:06:22. Gudkova was out with three red cards.

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With a lap to go, Nikolayeva began to show the effects of her effort and her lead was down to 25 seconds as the bell lap began. Her stride was shortening and she was showing expressions of pain. O'Sullivan and Saville were the chasers, but both had two warnings.

Shortly into that lap, Jiang made her move past those two, with Vasco on her heels. With a kilometer to go they had sliced the lead to just 9 seconds and it looked like a race after all. But, as Nikolayeva made the final turn into that last kilometer, a look across alerted her to the danger. "I was a little curious, so I looked behind. I saw the Chinese coming so I decided to give every last bit of power I had in the last few meters," she said. That was enough and she even managed to add a second to her lead by the finish. She crossed the line in 1:27:24, having slowed to 22:11 on her final 5. Jiang just held off Vasco for second and Saville beat Rigaud and a weary Song for the fourth spot. In this great competitive race, O'Sullivan, in eighth, was still just 37 seconds back of the winner.

Nikolayeva was in her sixth World Cup, the first appearance coming in New York in 1987, and she duplicated her 1999 win. She has also competed in four Olympics and will, no doubt, make that five in August.

The Chinese were easy winners in the team race with 18 points to Russia's 28. Romania had a solid team performance (12, 13, and 16) to take third. The U.S. team, without our top walkers, was led by Deb Huberty's 65th place finish in 1:41:59. They finished 14th among the 15 nations that finished three walkers. The results:

1. Yelena Nikolayeva, Russia 1:27:24 2. Jing Jiang, China 1:27:34 3. Maria Vasco, Spain 1:27:35 4. Jane Saville, Australia 1:27:44 5. Elisa Rigaud, Italy 1:27:49 6. Hongjuan Song, China 1:27:51 7. Yuliya Voyevodina, Russia 1:27:53 8. Gillian O'Sullivan, Ireland 1:28:01 9. Melanie Seeger, Germany 1:28:17 10. Liping Wang, China 1:29:12 11. Aihui Xu, China 1:29:30 12. Claudia Stef, Romania 1:29:40 13. Norica Campeanu, Romania 1:29:51 14. Athanasia Tsourmelaka, Greece 1:29:51 15. Sabine Zimmer, Germany 1:29:56 16. Daniela Cirian, Romania 1:30:19 17. Hristina Kilotou, Greece 1:30:20 18. Beatriz Pascual, Spain 1:30:22 19. Rossella Giordano, Italy 1:30:28 20. Tatyana Kozlova, Russia 1:30:31 21. Natalya Misyulya, Belarus 1:30:32 22. Vira Zozulya, Ukraine 1:30:33 23. Larisa Khmel'nitskaya, Belarus 1:30:39 24. Sylwia Korzeniowska, Poland 1:31:30 25. Natalie Saville, Australia 1:31:34 26. Cheryl Webb, Australia 1:31:43 27. Kristina Saltanovic, Lithuania 1:31:54 28. Na Shi, China 1:31:59 29. Maribel Goncalves, Portugal 1:32:02 30. Sonata Milusauskaite, Lith. 1:32:11 31. Maria Teresa Gargallo, Spain 1:32:16 32. Gisella Orsini, Italy 1:32:19 33. Maria Jose Poves, Spain 1:32:32 34. Ines Henriques, Portugal 1:32:32 35. Barbora Dibekova, Czech Rep. 1:33:08 36. Vera Santos, Portugal 1:33:13 37. Valentina Tsybul'skaya, Belarus 1:33:51 38. Aggeliki Makri, Greece 1:34:14 39. Nayalya Fedoskina, Russia 1:34:36 40. Veronica Budileanu, Romania 1:34:48 41. Deb Huberty, USA 1:41:59 42. Samantha Cohen, USA 1:43:54 43. Margaret Ditchburn, USA 1:44:53 44. Susan Armenta, USA 1:45:38 (78 finishers, 9 DQs including Jolene Moore, USA, 11 DNF) Team Scores: 1. China 18 2. Russia 28 3. Romania 41 4. Spain 52 5. Australia 53 6. Italy 56 7. Greece 69 8. Germany 76 9. Belarus 81 10. Portugal 99 11. Lithuania 126 12. France 168 13. Brazil 188 14. USA 212 15. Algeria 214

The expected duel between Jefferson Perez and Robert Korzeniowski for the men's 20 Km crown took a while to develop and was rather short lived when it did come about. Perez was devastating at the finish as he won his third World Cup title to go with his 1996 Olympic and 2003 World Championship golds. Korzeniowski, the world's premier 50 km walker and winner of both the 20 and 50 in the 2000 Olympic, was certainly not disgraced with his silver medal. Nathan Deakes was a close third, as the three medalists completely outclassed the rest of the field.

The race started rather leisurely by present standards with a group of 19 walkers going through 5 Km in 20:04. Another group of eight was 8 seconds back. As the pace quickened, 10 Km was reached in 39:54 with 13 walkers still in the lead pack.

Perez moved to the front of the pack for the first time and then began swapping the lead with the other two medalists as they stepped up the pace another notch. At 15 Km, the threesome had 59:34 (19:40 for the third 5). China's Yucheng Han and Yunfang Liu were only a second back, followed by Italy's Ivano Brugnetti (59:37), Russia's Ilya Markov, and Spain's Juan Manuel Molina (59:41). Viktor Burayev and Zingde Xu were losing contact as they went through in just under 1 hour.

Perez started to apply the pressure, but as they started the final lap with 2 1/2 km to go, Korzeniowski, Markov, Deakes, and Han were still there. But not for long. Markov and Han quickly dropped away and Markov soon had a third red card. And Perez was able to find a gear that the other two simply couldn't live with. Covering his last 5 Km in 19:08, Perez had built a 20 second lead as he hit the finish in 1:18:42. Deakes was another 9 seconds back of Korzeniowski after a brilliant effort that left Han another 47 seconds back in fourth. The Australian had been out for two years and is comebacking from surgery a year ago, so he was particularly pleased with his first major medal.

China won the team title with three in the top nine, a mild surprise, with the Russians favored. Even had Markov not been DQ'd, however, it would still have been a Chinese. The real surprise was Ecuador taking second as Perez's influence has now put together a strong group of walkers. Ecuador and Italy both scored 35 points, with Ecuador getting the second based on the first place finish of Perez.

The U.S. had a strong team effort, finishing ninth of the 20 full teams. Kevin Eastler had another very strong race as he finished 26th in 1:22:51. He already had an Olympic "A" qualifier from last year's World Championships, but going under the "A" standard again here gives him a qualifier for next year's World Championships. Tim Seaman was on pace for an "A" qualifier through 15 km, but faltered the last lap to finish 39th in a very respectable 1:24:21. Curt Clausen was 36th in 1:25:39 and John Nunn 50th in 1:26:19. On the basis of time, this was a best-ever performance. The only other time we had four under 1:30 was 1987 when Tim Lewis finished 13th in 1:22:27, Ray Sharp 45th in 1:27:01, Mike Stauch 53rd in 1:27:54, and Paul Schwartzburg 59th in 1:28:48. There have been better performances based on place, but those were when fields were smaller--1970 with 8th, 9th, 23rd, and 24th and 1973 21st, 3rd, 7th, 14th, and 27th. The results: 1. Jefferson Perez, Ecuador 1:18:42 2. Robert Korzeniowski, Poland 1:19:02 3. Nathan Deakes, Australia 1:19:11 4. Yucheng Han, China 1:19:58 5. Yunfang Liu, China 1:20:06 6. Ivano Brugnetti, Italy 1:20:06 7. Vitor Burayev, Russia 1:20:14 8. Juan Manuel Molina, Spain 1:20:29 9. Xingde Xu, China 1:20:35 10. Ivan Trotskiy, Belarus 1:20:41 11. Vladimir Stankin, Russia 1:20:43 12. Rolando Dquipay, Ecuador 1:20:47 13. Alessandro Gandellini, Italy 1:21:06 14. Luke Adams, Australia 1:21:24 15. Andre Hohne, Germany 1:21:27 16. Marco Giungi, Italy 1:21:43 17. Joao Vieira, Portugal 1:21:45 18. Jose David Dominguez, Spain 1:21:45 19. Gabriel Ortiz, Mexico 1:21:50 20. Denis Langlois, France 1:21:57 21. Benjamin Kuckinski, Poland 1:22:04 22. Xavier Moreno, Ecuador 1:22:24 23. Lorenzo Civalero, Italy 1:22:26 24. Jose Alejandro Cambil, Spain 1:22:28 25. Hongjun Zhu, China 1:22:39 26. Kevin Eastler, USA 1:22:51 27. Robert Heffernan, Ireland 1:22:58 28. Roman Magdziarczyk, Poland 29. Maik Berger, Germany 1:23:02 30. Jamie Costin, Ireland 1:23:08 31. Vladimir Parvatkin, Russia 1:23:16 32. David Marquez, Spain 1:23:23

33. Fausto Quinde, Ecuador 1:23:25 34. Gyula Dudas, Hungary 1:23:27 35. Fredy Hernandez, Columbia 1:23:35 36. Moussa Aouanouk, Algeria 1:23:35 37. Sergey Chernov, Belarus 1:23:46 38. Luis Fernando Lopez, Columbia 1:24:00 39. Tim Seaman, USA 1:24:21 40. Yohan Diniz, France 1:24:28 41. Curt Clausen, USA 1:25:39 42. John Nunn, USA 1:26:19 43. Tim Berrett, Canada 1:28:34 44. Philip Dunn, USA 1:32:28 (97 finishers, 8 DQs, 11 DNF including Michele Didoni, Italy and Roman Rasskazov, Russia)

Team Score: 1. China 18 2. Ecuador 35 3. Italy 35 4. Russia 49 5. Spain 50 6. Poland 51 7. Germany 89 8. Australia 92 9. USA 111 10. France 115 12. Portugal 118 12. Columbia 121 13. Belarus 126 14. Ireland 127 15. Mexico 130 16. Slovak Republic 149 17. Lithuania 158 18. Hungary 194 19. Algeria 212 20. Mauritius 282

In a battle to beat the heat, Russia's Aleksey Voyevodin repeated as World Cup 50 Km champion. The race came down to the final 5 Km, but this time it was not a question of who could accelerate, but who could slow the least. That was Voyevodin who beat China's Caohong Yu with the rest of the field far behind at the finish. The race was Russia vs. China all the way with those two countries occupying six of the first seven places. Spain's trio stormed through the final 10 km to take places 6, 8, and 9.

Ignoring the dangers of a very hot day, a Chinese trio of Zhao, Yu, and Xing raced away from the start and went through the first 5 in 21:55, with the Russians 10 seconds back. The Chinese continued at near that pace and by the halfway mark, where there is usually a large pack still together, they had broken the field completely apart.

Zhao, Yu, and Xing were together in 1:49:50, 3 seconds ahead of Russia's Semyon Lovkin. Voyevodin was fifth in 1:50:16, Rafal Augustyn of Poland sixth in 1:50:50, Aigars Fadejevs of Latvia seventh in 1:50:53, and German Skurgyin eighth in 1:51:20.

As the heat and pace began to take their toll, Fadejevs moved in front by 30 Km in 2:12:04, 14 seconds ahead of Yu who had 2 seconds on Voyevodin. The 22 minute 5 km pace was gone and the death march begun. Zhao was at 2:12:52 and Xing at 2:13:36, with Lovkin, Skurgyin, and Russia's Stepan Yudin another 20 seconds back. The rest of the field was strung out well back.

Yu regained the lead at 35 km in 2:34:32, 3 seconds ahead of Voyevodin. Fadejevs was now 16 seconds back and was soon to receive his third red card. Everyone else was now more than 2 minutes back and a two-man race was on. Yu slowed to 22:32 on the next 5, but Voyevodin could gain only a second. They were now nearly 3 minutes ahead of third.

As Yu struggled through a 22:42 for the next 5, the two protagonists were together at 45 km. Yu finally had to give up the chase with 4 km to go and while Voyevodin just broke 23 on his final five, he built up a 63 second lead at the finish. Lovkin and Yudin both dropped out, but two other Russians moved up to the third and fourth spots as the attrition was great with DQs and drop outs. Xing and Zhao, the early leaders, also faded badly, but dutifully, two other Chinese moved up to take the fifth and seventh spots. Only Spain's great veteran Jesus Angel Garcis broke up the Russian-Chinese monopoly as he led his team through the field. Garcia was just 23rd at 25 km.

"Winning here is a great feeling, and I am very happy," said the winner after the race. "Naumburg is a town that brings me luck--in 1997 I won and thus qualified for the World Championships in Athens and now this year again, by winning in Naumburg I qualify for the Olympic Games in Athens. At no moment did I think of winning; you know at the 50 km one can never give any good prognostics. The competition is just too long and we always risk injuries at the legs, for example. I was very positive and sure about winning only in the last two laps. . . Until the Olympic Games I won't take part in any competitions."

In this one, the U.S. was unable to finish a team with Sean Albert, Gary Morgan, and Dave Doherty all dropping out. Theron Kissinger and Dave McGovern struggled through, but were the final two finishers in a field in which only 54 of 94 starters were there at the finish. The results:

1. Aleksey Voyevodin, Russia 3:42:44 2. Caohong Yu, China 3:43:47 3. Yuriy Andronov, Russia 3:46:49 4. German Skurgyin, Russia 3:49:28 5. Latangadasu A, China 3:49:54 6. Jesus Angel

Garcia, Spain 3:50:33 7. Zhide Cui, China 3:52:24 8. Santiago Perez, Spain 3:52:58 9. Mario Avellaneda, Spain 3:53:22 10. Giovanni De Benedictis, Italy 3:54:25 11. Modris Liepins, Latvia 3:54:52 12. Pedro Martins, Portugal 3:55:31 12. Jorge Costa, Portugal 3:55:31 14. Shuai Xing, China 3:55:33 15. Julio Rene Martinex, Guatemala 3:56:19 16. Trond Nymark, Norway 3:57:11 17. Dong-young Kim, Korea 3:58:00 18. Andrey Stepanchuk, Belarus 3:58:31 19. Changliang Zhao, China 3:58:39 20. Fredrik Svensson, Sweden 3:58:45 21. Luis Garcia, Guatemala 4:02:47 22. Diego Cafagno, Italy 4:04:54 23. Rafal Fedaczynski, Poland 4:05:10 24. Kamil Kalka, Poland 4:06:09 25. Antonio Pereira, Portugal 4:07:30 26. Duane Cousins, Australia 4:09:14 27. Ugis Bruvelis, Latvia 4:11:33 28. Milos Holusa, Czech. Rep. 4:12:02 29. Enrico Lang, Italy 4:12:02 30. Nenad Filipovic, SCG. . . 53. Theron Kissinger, USA 4:59:16 54. Dave McGovern, USA 5:03:36 (54 finishers, 28 dnf most notably Viktor Ginko, Belarus; Mikel Odriozola, Spain; Sandor Urbanik, Hung.; and Sergey Korepanov, Kazakhstan; 12 DQs.)

Team Scores: 1. Russia 8 2. China 14 3. Spain 23 4. Portugal 50 5. Italy 61 6. Latvia 81 7. Sweden 86 8. Australia 97 9. France 112 10. Chile 151

For the first time, the World Cup included Junior (under 19) races for both men and women at 10 Km. The women's race was a show case for Russia's 16-year-old Vera Sokolova, who won the Youth World 5 Km Championship last summer. She beat her teammate Anna Bragina by nearly a minute with a brilliant 45:29 effort.

Sokolova set a wicked pace with a 22:20 for the first 5 Km. Only two others attempted to stay close--China's Xiaoyan Liu (22:29) and Russia's Svetlana Vasilyeva (22:30). Both were apparently over extending themselves and paid for the effort with disqualifications. Bragina was more cautious, hitting 5 in 22:47, 11 seconds ahead of China's Nan Zhang. She was able to build on that lead the second half and was more than a minute ahead of Zhang at the finish. So the two young Russians were easily the class of the field. With only two walkers scoring (as opposed to three in the senior races), the Russians one-two finish was a sure winner in the team battle. Poland and Greece were second and third. The U.S. girl's finished 14th, led by Maria Michta who was 29th in 53:04. The results:

1. Vera Sokolova, Russia 45:29 2. Anna Bragina, Russia 46:15 3. Nan Zhang, China 47:18 4. Maja Landmann, Germany 48:39 5. Despina Zapounidou, Greece 49:00 6. Agnieszka Cygacz, Poland 49:15 7. Anastasiya Kuztyetsova, Ukraine 39:21 8. Lisa Grant, Australia 49:25 9. Aliona Rusak, Belarus 49:34 10. Beata Bodzioch, Poland 49:47 11. Johana Ordonez, Ecuador 50:12 12. Katie Stones, GB 50:29 13. Brigita Virbalyte, Lithuania 50:41 14. Luz Villarmarin, Columbia 51:19 15. Natallia Charnahayeva, Belarus 51:26 16. Fiona Alidis, Australia 51:29 17. Alexia Triadafillou, Greece 51:40 18. Nmanda Gorst, New Zealand (her mother was 51st in the Women's 20 Km with 1:36:41) 19. Nina Kovalchuk, Ukraine 51:48 20. Eva Maria Iglesias, Spain 51:50 21. Katalin Varro, Hungary 51:54 22. Agnese Ragonasi, Italy 52:08 23. Oana Maxim, Romania 52:12 24. Tatiana Gonzalex, Mexico 52:15 25. Mariana Marazopoulou, Greece 52:19 26. Mandy Liorou, France 52:22 27. Sophie Hales, GB 52:29 28. Nastassia Makatrova, Belarus 52:31 29. Maria Michta, USA 53:04 30. Eszter Gerendasi, Hungary 53:06 31. Erica Adams, USA 54:59 40. Catherine Hayes, USA 55:32 (50 finishers, 3 DQs)

Team Score: 1. Russia 3 2. Poland 16 3. Greece 22 4. Australia 24 5. Belarus 24 6. Ukraine 26 7. Great Britain 39 8. Ecuador 43 9. China 46 10. Germany 49 11. Spain 51 12. Hungary 51 13. Mexico 66 14. USA 68 15. France 70 16. Estonia 90

The Junior Men's 10 Km saw a dramatic finish. First, early leader Vladimir Kanaykin of Russia was disqualified as he neared the start of the final lap, putting Ecuador's Osvaldo Ortega in the lead. Locked in a dual with China's Chao Sun, Ortega was also DQd, just 400 meters from the finish. Sun went on to an easy win in 40:38. Ortega had no warnings during the race, but was hit by the Chief Judge's "Super DQ" at the end. Mexico's Eder Sanchez, who has the world's fastest time for the year at 40:33 took the silver medal and Spain's Benjamin Sanchez the bronze.

Kanaykin blasted the first 5 in 19:40 and was well out in front. Ortega had 20:01, Sanchez 20:02, and Sun 20:06 at that point. With a commanding lead, the Russian did not back off when a couple of cards came out and he got the third 100 meters before he entered the final lap. Sun himself had two red cards, but nonetheless went by Ortega with about 400 meters to go and Ortega then got the DQ as he tried to get back on terms. In a close team race, Mexico captured the title.

For the US, Zach Pollinger and Troy Clark both had subpar races, Pollinger slowed by two warnings, and they finished last in the team race. The results:

1. Chao Sun, China 40:38 2. Eder Sanchez, Mexico 41:01 3. Benjamin Sanchez, Spain 41:19 4. Carsten Schmidt, Germany 41:40 5. Aleksandr Prokhorov, Russia 41:47 6. Andrey Ruzavin, Russia 41:53 7. Alejandro Rojas, Mexico 42:03 8. Hyun-sup Kim, Korea 42:04 9. Adam Rutter, Australia 42:07 10. Michael Krause, Germany 42:10 11. Doru Ursu, Romania 42:11 12. Yong Shi, China 42:21 13. Jianguo Zhao, China 42:51 14. Vilius Mikelionis, Lithuania 43:29 15. Ingus Janevics, Latvia 43:41 16. Jiri Chaloupka, Czech Rep. 43:42 17. Michal Blazek, Slovakia 43:43 18. Marius Ziukas, Lith. 43:58 19. Ivan Cordoba, Spain 44:06 20. Vadzim Tsivanchuk, Belarus 44:11 21. Juan Carlos Rios, Spain 44:27 22. Hannes Tonat, Germany 44:38 23. Tadas Suskevicius, Lith. 44:52 24. Serhiy Chkhan, Ukraine 44:54 25. Oleksandr Venglovskyy, Ukraine 44:54 26. Goncalo Bejinha, Portugal 45:11 27. Luke Finch, GB 45:18 28. Anatole Ibanez, Sweden 45:28 29. Michael McCagh, Australia 45:32 30. Marco Nicoletti, Italy 45:36 31. Marthinus Estahulzen, South Africa 45:38 32. Zach Pollinger, USA 49:06 33. Troy Clark, USA 49:19 34. Joseph Trapani, USA 56:47 (54 finishers, 4 DNF, 5 DQs)

Team Score: 1. Mexico 9 2. Russia 11 3. China 13 4. Germany 14 5. Spain 22 6. Lithuania 32 7. Australia 38 8. Ukraine 49 9. Great Britain 68 10. Hungary 70 11. Greece 73 12. Italy 74 13. France 75 14. Algeria 88 15. USA 97

Nunn, Seaman Both Achieve Olympic "A" Standards at 20

For the first time since standards for Olympic and World Championship participation were introduced in 1991, the U.S. has three men under the Olympic "A" Standard at 20 Km. That's the time that must be achieved for a nation to enter more than one competitor in an event. For the 20 Km walk, the "A" standard is 1:23:00 (The softer "B" standard--1:24:30-- allows a single entrant.)

Kevin Eastler had achieved the standard in last year's World Championships with his 1:22:25 effort. Tim Seaman and John Nunn both had hopes of achieving the standard in the intense competition of the World Cup, but fell short. But both have since taken advantage of good racing opportunities and have now joined Kevin.

Nunn traveled with Curt Clausen and Philip Dunn to Birstonas, Lithuania a week after the World Cup for a May 8 race. They outclassed the field and John walked a well-paced race to win in 1:22:31. He followed Clausen and Gintaras Andriuskevicius through a 5 Km split of 20:43 (20:45 pace equals a 1:22:30). John then took off on his own, hitting 10 Km in 41:16 (20:33), and 15 Km in 1:01:58 (20:42), adding another 20:33 at the end for the final time.

"It was a wonderful race for me", Nunn commented. "The crowd was very supportive and the conditions were great. I couldn't have done it without the help of the U.S. Army, my Coach Enrique Pena, and my teammates, Curt Clausen and Philip Dunn, who joined me in Lithuania after last week's race in Germany." The time moved Nunn to third on the U.S. all-time list behind Eastler and Tim Lewis (1:21:48 in 1986).

Clausen was excited for Nunn and with his own second-place finish. "We really did well as a team. John had a phenomenal race and I was able to meet my goal of hitting the Olympic "B" standard, too. It was a perfect day." The results:

1. John Nunn 1:22:31 2. Curt Clausen 1:24:18 3. Gintaras Andriuskevicius 1:24:29 4. Daugvinas Zujus 1:27:25 5. Linas Bubnelis 1:27:39 6. Philip Dunn 1:33:32 (12 finishers)

Two weeks later, on May 23, Tim Seaman was in Copenhagen for his crack at the standard. With help from his training partner, Norway's Erik Tysse, Tim made the standard, and then some, walking a brilliantly paced 1:22:02, second only to Lewis on the U.S. all-time list. However, it betters the accepted U.S. road record--a 1:22:17 by Lewis in 1989. (Lewis' 1:21:48 at the Pan-Am Cup in Quebec in 1986 was never accepted as a record, apparently because proper documentation was never provided by the race management, even though it met IAAF approval and Canada's Guillaume Leblanc's 1:21:13 winning time was accepted as a North American record.)

Tim's pacing was even more solid than John's as he hit 5 Km in 20:30, 10 Km in 40:58 (20:28), and 15 Km in 1:01:30 (20:32), leaving him another 20:32 for the final time. His final kilometer was in 4:04 Tysse, who alternated the lead with Tim through 15 Km and stayed on the pace through 18 Km, was just 14 seconds back at the finish.

While the trio of Seaman, Nunn, and Eastler now have "A" standard races in their pockets, they still need to finish the Olympic Trials race in July and beat anyone else that might achieve the standard. That could be done before the Trials or in the Trials themselves. Or, if someone beats one or more of the trio in the Trial, they would still have a week or two to get another race and meet the standard. The team will be the first three finishers in the Trials that have an "A" standard. Seaman, Nunn, and Eastler also now have qualifying times for next year's World Championships. While Eastler's 1:22:25 from last year is too old, his 1:22:51 in Naumburg was a qualifier.

Meanwhile, we still have only two "A" qualifiers at 50 (4:00)--Curt Clausen and Philip Dunn. With Al Heppner gone and Tim Seaman now glued to the 20, Sean Albert would seem to be the only possibility. Whether there is another 50 in his plans, we don't know.

Chinese Take Advantage of Home Court in Fourth Challenge Leg

Kunshan, China, May 22-23--The fourth leg of the IAAF Racewalking Challenge held here was dominated by Chinese athletes. Both men's and women's 20 Km races were held. Actually, dominance wasn't too difficult as there was little participation from outside of China.

In the women's race, China's 20-year-old Hongjuan Song left newly-crowned World Cup winner Yelena Nikolayeva well in her wake. Song already has the world's fastest time for the year--a 1:26:46 in March--but had faded to a sixth place finish in Naumburg. In Naumburg, Song couldn't hang onto the Russian's relentless pace, but she easily turned the tables here. Taking command early, she steadily built her lead and was just one second short of a two-minute victory as she crossed the line in 1:28:12. Besides Nikolayeva, the only other non-Chinese were Romania's Claudia Stef in fourth, Belarus' Valentina Tsbuykaya in 14th, another Russian, and one Japanese.

In the men's race, China swept the first three places, led by Yucheng Han in 1:19:59, just one second slower than his fourth place time in Naumburg. The 25-year-old Han, who has the world's fastest 50 Km this year, finished his third 20 Km race of the year, all under 1:20. Zhide Cui, who was seventh at 50 in Naumburg, finished second, shattering his personal best with a 1:20:12. The lead pack went through 5 Km in 19:30 and 10 Km in 19:43. Han was in front by 15 Km in 59:52 and pulled away from his pursuers over the final 5. Third place went to Hongjuan Zhu, only 25th in Naumburg where he faded badly in the final kilometers, in 1:20:41. Just three walkers from outside of China competed. The results:

Women: 1. Hongjuan Song 1:28:12 2. Yelena Nikolayeva, Russia 1:30:11 3. Aihus Xu 1:30:53 4. Claudia Stef, Romania 1:32:10 5. Liping Wang 1:32:22 6. Zhang Nan 1:32:27 7. Yinghua Tang 1:32:36 8. Feifei Liu 1:33:02 9. Lihua Sun 1:33:59 10. Ying Zou 1:34:47 (41 finishers)

Men: 1. Yucheng Han 1:19:59 2. Zhide Cui 1:20:12 3. Hongjun Zhu 1:20:41 4. Ranghua Lu 1:20:55 5. Chuan Pei 1:22:12 6. Tianfeng Si 1:22:44 7. Shucai Xing 1:22:54 8. Aiguo Bian 1:23:01 9. Chingliang Zhou 1:23:04 10. Chao Guo 1:23:31 (65 finishers with 65th at 1:35:58, 18 under 1:25, 51 under 1:30)

Rohl Wins 1 Hour, Clausen Takes 2 Hour

Kenosha, Wis., May 23--Both Michelle Rohl and Curt Clausen successfully defended national titles in races held today--Rohl at 1 Hour and Clausen at 2. With high humidity and winds gusting up to 30 mph, conditions were not conducive to fast performances, but both champion easily prevailed. Rohl was in command all the way and had nearly a minute on second-place Cohen as she passed 10 Km 47:32. She continued to lengthen her lead and covered 12,600 meters in the hour--96 meters over her 2003 performance in California, Penn. Cohen held off Jolene Moore by 56 meters. The first three lapped the rest of the field.

Clausen was unchallenged in the 2-Hour race and finished with 26,109 meters, 316 meters short of his last year's performance and well off his U.S. record of 27,360 meters set in 2000. Dave Doherty beat Bill Vayo for second. Master's titles went to Lynn Tracy for the women and Leon Jasionowski for the men, who walked just 1 Hour in the master's division.

A non-championship 1 Hour race for men saw Ben Shorey edge Mike Tarantino by 6 meters with a 12,870 meter performance, which is about 5 yards short of 8 miles. Mike Stanton was fairly close to those two through 10 Km, but faded from there to the finish. All the results:

Women's National 1 Hour: 1. Michelle Rohl 12,600 meters (47:32 at 10 Km) 2. Sam Cohen 12,272 (48:26) 3. Jolene Moore 12,216 (48:43) 4. Deb Huberty 11,734 (49:46) 5. Ann Favolise 11,334 (52:53) 6. Pam Murkowski 11,046 (54:21) 7. Ali Bahr (10,990 (53:28) 8. Christine Tafliaferri 10,910 (53:43) 9. Susie Pottash 10,806 (55:37) 10. Jasmine Brooks 10,510 11. Amanda Bergeron 10,469 12. LaToya Henry 10,187

Men's National 2 Hour: 1. Curt Clausen 26,109 meters (44:08, 1:32:02) 2. Dave Doherty 23,050 (50:21, 1:43:41) 3. Bill Vayo 22,441 (52:41, 1:46:51) 4. Dan O'Brien 19,721 (55:17) DNF--Ray Sharp.

Women's Master's 1 Hour: 1. Lynn Tracy (50-54) 9545 meters 2. Judy Myers (45-49) 9534 3. Donna Green (50-54) 8850

Men's Master's 1 Hour: 1. Leon Jasionowski (55-59) 11,013 (55:59) 2. Max Walker (55-59) 10,703 (56:02) 3. Will Preischel (40-44) 10,632 (56:25) 4. Jim Carmines (60-64) 9992 5. Max Green (72) 9937 6. Paul Johnson (65-59) 9611 7. Damon Clemons (45-49) 8647 8. Al DuBois (70-74) 8565 (11 finishers)

Other Results

20 Km, New York City, May 23--1. Paul Schwartzburg 1:37:34 (47:36) 2. Vlado Haluska (52) 1:56:19 3. Alexis Davidson (48) 1:58:17 4. Vyacheslav Troshkin (55) 1:59:54 5. Loretta Schuellein 2:00:10 6. Bruce Logan 2:06:09 7. Andy Cable 2:07:01 8. Bor Barrett (70) 2:07:03 9. Lon Wilson (56) 2:08:28 10. Edoardo Sorrenti (61) 2:12:53 11. Pable Henriquez (70) 2:30:40 **10 Km, same place--**1. Nicholas Bdera (55) 54:28 2. Tim Davidson (16) 55:46 3. Roslyn Adams (17) 57:39 4. Indiana Ripoli (18) 61:55 5. David Lee (49) 65:02 6. Jennifer Marlborough 65:23 (8 finishers) **20 Km, Point Pleasant, N.J., May 23--**1. Christopher Stuart (13) 2:08:06 2. Tom Quattrocchi (53) 2:08:22 3. Ben Ottmer (70) 2:25:05 4. Dave Romansky (66) 2:41:04 **Women--**1. Marie Woodland 2:21:05 2. Sherry Brosnahan (52) 2:21:09 **10 Km, same place--**1. Jack Starr (75) 66:38 2. Bob Mimm (79) 79:33 **5 Km, same place--**1. Janine Stuart (43) 33:35 2. Maria Paul 33:34 **Southeast Masters, May 7 and 9:** 5 Km--1. John Fredericks (56) 29:48.5 2. Victor Litwinski (60) 31:26 3. Danny Spell (54) 31:27 4. Cedric Hustace (70) 33:54 4. Bob Mimm (79) 35:12 (9 finishers) **Women--**1. Katherine Fincher (45) 34:54 (3 finishers) **20 Km--**1. John Fredericks (56) 2:06:04 2. Steve Hubbart (52) 2:11:29 3. Heinrich Looser (65) 2:16:28 4. Peter Bayer (65) 2:21:17 5. Cedric Hustace (70) 2:24:47 6. Bob Mimm (79) 2:30:08 **10 Km--**1. John

Fredericks 60:34 2. Steve Hubbart 62:52 3. Danny Spell 66:10 4. William Squier (61) 67:24 5. Heinrich Looser 67:28 6. Peter Bayer 69:48 7. Cedric Hustace 71:57 8. Bob Mimm 75:23 (13 finishers) **Women--**1. Teresa Aragon (43) 60:50 **Jack Mortland Racewalks, Yellow Springs, Ohio, May 9:** 20 Km--1. Matt Boyles 1:32:08 (2 Km splits--8:59, 18:05, 27:11, 36:15, 45:20, 54:32, 1:03:43, 1:12:56, 1:22:20) 2. Mark Green (48) 1:39:00 (48:44) 3. Rod Craig (46) 1:52:12 4. Lisa Sonntag (40) 1:53:27 (55:24) 5. Marcia Gutsche-Rutledge (42) 1:53:33 (55:24) 6. Max Walker (57) 1:54:27 7. Ed Fitch (44) 1:55:11 8. Doug Johnson (43) 1:45:58 9. Max Green (72) 2:06:22 (1 DQ)--It was good to draw walkers from all over--Mark Green from Las Vegas, Lisa Sonntag from Florida (moving back to Indiana shortly), and Marcia Gutsche-Rutledge from Massachusetts. The two women were step for step all the way until the final 100 meters and had a god race trying to overhaul Max Walker, which they accomplished at about 14 km. Mark was back East for Mother's Day. 10 Km--1. Leon Jasionowski (59) 54:02 2. Tina Peters (16) 61:06 3. Amanda Johnson (15) 64:44 4. Jack Blackburn (68) 70:09 (6 finishers--1 DQ) 5 Km--1. Bill Reed (51) 28:17 2. Evan Crowds (13) 28:35 3. Billie Robinson 29:18 4. Zara Rhone 29:38 5. Amanda Huff (15) 30:12 6. Mary Franklin (41) 30:28 7. Kelli Johnson (17) 31:10 8. Jana Marshall 31:29 9. Andy Peters (14) ? (15 finishers) **Weinacher Cup, Marysville, Mich., May 16:** (Michigan vs. Ontario) 10 Km--1. Gordon Mosher, Ontario 48:39 2. Dan O'Brien, Mich. 49:38 3. Leon Jasionowski, Mich. 52:24 4. Dave Keenan, un., Alberta 53:34 5. Ken Lampar, Mich. 58:50 6. Max Green, Mich. 58:53 7. DOn Knight Mich. 63:24 8. Stuart Summerhayes, Ont. 63:46 (13 finishers) **Team Score:** Michigan 12 Ontario 9. **Women's 5 Km--**1. Rachel Lavallee, Ont. 25:23 2. Chelsea Rodriquez, Ont. 26:15 3. Kitty Cahsman, Ont. 27:21 4. Deb Topham, Mich. 28:17 5. Rachel Van Der Zwet, Ont. 28:33 6. Lynetter Heinlein, Mich. 29:37 7. Mary Franklin, Mich. 29:44 8. Wanda Tichy, Mich. 32:23 9. Julia Puzdrowski, Mich. 35:23 **Team Score:** Ontario 16 Michigan 6 **Final Team Score:** Ontario 25 Michigan 18. Ontario has won 9 of 13 matches, including the last 5. **20 Km, Kenosha, Wis., May 9--**1. Michelle Rohl 1:34:24 (46:38) 2. Teresa Vaill (40) 1:34:32 (46:36) 3. Christine Tagliaferri 1:48:50 4. Janna Miller 1:49:59 5. Loretta Schuellein 1:51:36 6. Jasmine Brooks 1:52:35 7. Amanda Bergeron 1:57:35 8. Mo Roberts 2:03:32 1 DQ **Men--**1. Mike Tarantino 1:33:39 (46:36) 2. Mike Stanton 1:34:29 (46:36) 3. Ray Sharp (41) 1:39:43 **Women's 15 Km, same place--**1. Amber Antonia 1:12:40 (47:40) 2. Lynn Tracy (51) 1:26:57 3. Judy Myers (50) 1:34:30 **Women's 10 Km, same place--**1. Susie Potthast (18) 54:24 2. Ali Bahr 55:17 3. LeErin Voss (17) 58:13 **Men's 10 Km, same place--**1. Andrea Gustafson, Sweden 45:52 2. T.C. DeWitt 49:42 3. Jon Chasse 49:45 4. Augie Hirt (53) 59:08 5. George Opsahl 60:00 (1 DQ) **5 Km, same place--**1. Jolene Moore 24:00 2. Wil Preischel (42) 24:51 3. LaYoya Henry (18) 28:18 4. Lauren Davis (19) 30:54 5. Ron Winkler (53) 32:20 **Youth 1 Mile, Weslaco, Tex., April 25--**1. Robert Vergara (13) 7:26 2. Ricardo Vergara (13) 7:32 3. Ernesto Vergara (16) 7:38 4. Abraham Villareal (13) 8:36 **Girls--**1. Claudia Ortiz (11) 8:52 2. Corina Ortiz (13) 9:01 3. Ruby Perez (14) 9:37 (@8 participants, 2 DQs) **Youth 1 Mile, Pharr, Texas, May 1--**1. Brooke Shannon (11) 9:37 2. Bailey Shannon (11) 9:53 3. Jessica Keybal (11) 9:59 4. Ruby Perez 9:59 **Boys--**1. Ernesto Vergara 7:37 2. Roberto Vergara 7:44 3. Ricardo Vergara 7:50 4. Abraham Villarreal 9:01 (29 participants in the two races.) **Youth 1 Mile, Harlingen, Tex., May 2--**1. Jennette Avitia (13) 9:11 **Boys--**1. Ernesto Vergara 7:26 2. Ricardo Vergara 7:47 3. Abraham Villarreal 8:45 (28 participants, 3 DQs) 5 Miles, Denver, April 29--1. **Mike Blanchard (43) 46:46 2. Teresa Aragon (43) 47:45 3. Peggy Tronvig (49) 51:32 4. Carolyn Fleck (40) 53:03 5 Km, Littleton, Col., May 2--**1. Lorie Rupoli (52) 33:31 2. Marlene Graff (43) 33:57 **10 Km, Denver, May 8--**1. Albert Leibold (46) 54:32 2. Mike Blanchard (43) 56:45 3. Marianne Martino (53) 62:15 **5 Km, Griffith Park, Cal., April 24--**1. Alan Ede (64) 29:18 2. Janet Robinson (62) 29:52 3. Carl Acosta (70) 30:43 4. Gilberto Agreda (55) 32:23 5. Willie Ivy (57) 42:45 6. Gerald Harris (54) 32:58 7. Kathy Vigil (61) 33:02 8. Tony Castelli (66) 33:07 9. Gwen Hampton (57) 33:07 10. Yvonne Weber (67) 33:45 (51 finishers) **1 Mile, San Mateo, Cal., May 8--**1. Art Klein (51) 9:36 2. John Doane (61) 9:40 3. Hale Kronenberg (57)

10:31 (6 finishers) Women--1. Laura Cribbins (46) 9:23 (4 finishers) **5 Km, Fair Oaks, Cal.--1.** Kevin Killingsworth (48) 27:11 2. Joe Berendt (48) 27:53 3. Jack Bray (71) 28:35 4. Stewart Canning (45) 31:17 5. Jim Beckett (65) 31:50 6. Stu Kinney (64) 32:37 7. Mark Wuilantang (16) 33:06 8. Garland Murphy (56) 33:49 (14 finishers) Women--1. Nicki Goldman (45) 28:01 2. Doris Cassels (64) 32:37 3. Karen Stoyanowski (49) 33:35 (9 finishers) **Cascade Conference Women's 3 Km, Klamath Falls, Ore., May 8--1.** Amy Ellingson, Northwest College 17:31.4 **Northwest Regional Masters 10 Km, Seattle, April 24:** 1. Bob Novak (60+) 57:36.4 2. George Opsahl (60+) 59:24.4 3. Doug Ermini (45+) 60:25.3 4. John Backlund (60+) 60:26.8 (8 finishers) Women--1. Joslyn Slaughter (45+) 63:57.7 2. Bev LaVeck (65+) 66:43.2 (4 finishers) **2.8 Miles, Seattle, April 10--1.** Stan Chraminski (56) 25:07 2. Bart Kale (46) 26:29 3. Bob Novak (54) 27:04 4. Joslyn Slaughter (45) 27:38 (7 finishers) **2.8 Miles, Seattle, May 8--1.** Bob Novak and Stan Chraminski 24:39 3. Bart Kale 26:10 4. Doug Ermini (46) 26:20 5. Kathy Henley (44) 27:02 6. Jocelyn Slaughter 27:10 7. Ann Tuberg (44) 27:36 8. Richard Zerbe (65) 28:21 **5 Km, Toronto, May 8, 10 am--1.** Rachel Lavallee (18) 25:34.8 2. Chelsea Rodriguez (18) 26:41 3. Nanci Sweazey (48) 27:07 4. Guy Paquin (48) 27:16 **3 Km, same place, 11:05 am--1.** Chelsea Rodriguez 15:23.8 2. Guy Paquin 15:56 3. Nanci Sweazey 16:16 4. Kitty Cahsman (43) 16:32 5. Rachel Vanderzwet (16) 17:11.2 **1500 meters, same place, 11:45 am--1.** Chelsea Rodriguez 7:25.9 2. Nanci Sweazey 7:59 3. Guy Paquin 8:03 4. Rachel Vanderzwet 8:08 5. Lauren Vanleeuwen (15) 8:33 6. Joanne Markle 8:38 7. Rebecca Love (13) 8:44 (The 5 Km was indoors, the other two outdoors) **Finnish Racewalk Cup, Tuusula, May 15:** 10 Km--1. Antti Kempas 44:18 Women's 5 Km--1. Orolya Kruger, Hung. 24:53 2. Suvi Muinonen 15:26 Jr. Women's 3 Km--1. Lina-Marie Laine (15) 15:34 **10 Km, Leppavirta, Finland, May 20--1.** Jani Lehtinen 42:53 2. Antti Kempas 43:02 3. Janne Merilainen 45:45 **World Non-Stadia Masters Championships, New Zealand:** (50 Km results in last month's issue, other significant results follow) Women's 20 Km--Age 35--1. Lisa Wilson, Australia 1:38:31 40--1. Gabrielle Gorst, N.Z. 1:39:47 2. Amelia De Lorenzo, N.S. 2:00:34 45--1. Lynette Ventris, Australia 1:44:09 60--1. Frieda DeWolf, Belgium 2:14:14 Men's 30 Km--40--1. Dick Gnauch, Germany 2:43:22 2. Stephan Woegerbauer, Austria 2:47:32 45--1. Colin Heywood, Australia 2:39:36 2. Mark Donahoo, Aus. 2:42:58 3. Vladimir Barabash, Russia 2:51:21 4. Franco Venturi Degli, Italy 2:53:27 50--1. Roberto Cervi, Italy 2:44:17 2. Peter Ryan, GB 2:47:15 3. Eric Kemsley, N.Z. 2:56:26 55--1. Andrew Jamieson, Aust. 2:38:34 2. David Kates, GB 2:58:11 60--1. Hermann Strieder, Austria 3:03:35. . . 3. Bill Purves, Hong Kong 3:09:49 65--1. Eric Saxby, N.Z. 3:12:06 Women's 10 Km--40--1. Amelia DeLorenzo, N.Z. 55:54 45--Lynette Ventris, Australia 49:23 50--1. Heather Carr, Australia 58:26 60--1. Frieda DeWolf, Belgium 64:57 Men's 10 Km--40--1. Dick Gnaust, Ger. 47:43 2. Stephan Woegerbauer, Austria 48:32 45--1. Mikhail Kisselev, Russia 47:25 2. Colin Heywood, Australia 47:49 3. Mark Donahoo, Aus. 48:00 50--1. Roberto Cervi, Italy 40:01 2. Michael Harte, N.Z. 52:40 3. Eric Kemsley, N.Z. 52:47 55--1. Andrew Jamieson, Australia 48:03 2. Luigi Giannuzzi, Italy 53:23 3. Johann Siegele, Austria 53:42 60--1. Harmenn Strieder, Austria 55:41 2. Ole Jensen, Denmark 56:52 3. Bill Purves, Hong Kong 57:32

Pick A Place, Get Out and Race

Sat. June 5 Senior Games 5 Km, Los Angeles (Y)
Masters 3 Km, Seattle (C)
10 Km, Royal Oak, Mich. (W)
Sun. June 6 5 Km, Cambridge, Mass., 10 am (AA)
Pacific 5 Km, Sacramento, 8:30 am (R)
Sat. June 12 Colorado Masters 10 Km, Waterton Canyon, 8 am (H)

2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C)
Ohio 8 Km Championship, Yellow Springs, 8:30 am (M)
10 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (F)
1 Mile Handicap, Colts Neck, N.J., 1:45 pm (A)
5 Km, Cerritos, Cal., 7:30 am (Y)
3 Km, San Francisco, 9 am ((CC)
Sun. June 13 **National USASTF 15 Km, Lincoln, R.I. (X)**
3 Km, Langley, Va. (O)
5 and 10 Km, Royal Oak, Mich. (W)
Metropolitan 15 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)
1 Hour, Kentfield, Cal., 7:30 am (P)
Mon. June 14 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Wed. June 16 Summer Solstice 5 Km, Denver, 6:30 pm (H)
Sat. June 19 Colorado 5 Km, Aurora, 8 am (H)
5 Km, Kalamazoo, Mich. (D)
Sun. June 20 5 and 10 Km, Pasadena, Cal. (Y)
5 Km, Denver, 8 am (H)
New England 3 Km, Cambridge, Mass. (AA)
New England 3 Km (X)
5 Km, Portland, Ore. (C)
1 Hour, Menlo Park, Cal. (R)
Mon. June 21 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Sat. June 26 5 Km, Eugene, Oregon (C)
USATF National Junior 10 Km, Men and Women, College Station, Texas
USATF Eastern Region 5 Km, New Jersey (A)
Southeast Masters 5 Km, Clermont, Fla. (U)
10 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (F)
5 Km, Denver, 8:30 am (H)
Sun. June 27 10 Km, Sacramento, Cal. (E)
3 Km, Langley, Vir. (O)
Col. Senior Games 5 Km, Greeley, Col. (H)
Mon. June 28 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Tue. June 29 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J. (A)
Sun. July 4 5 Km, Evergreen, Col., 8 am (H)
8 Km, Washington, D.C. (O)
5 Miles, Sacramento, Cal., 7:30 am (E)
5 Km, Dedham, Mass. (AA)
Mon. July 5 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Tue. July 6 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J. (A)
Sat. July 10 2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C)
3 Km, Langley, Vir. (O)
5 Km, Lakewood, Col., 8 am (H)
Sun. July 11 5 Km, Cambridge, Mass., 10 am (AA)
Metropolitan 5 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)
Mon. July 12 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Mon. July 12 Bay State Games 3 Km, Cambridge, Mass., 9 am (AA)
Tues. July 13 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J. (A)
Mon. July 19 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Tue. July 20 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J. (A)
Thu. July 22 1500 meters and 3 Km, Cedarville, Ohio (M)

Sat. July 24	3 Km, Langley, Va. (O) Pacific Assn. 3 Km, Reno, Nev. (R) Masters 5 Km, Seattle (C) East Region 10 Km, Clinton, Conn. (X)
Sun. July 25	1 Hour, Kentfield, Cal. (P)
Mon. July 26	5 Km, Long Branch, N.J. 6:50 pm (A)
Sat. July 31	3 Km, Colorado Springs, Col. 11:30 am (H)
Sun. Aug. 1	5 Km, Evergreen, Col., 8 am (H)
Mon. Aug. 2	5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Aug. 5-8	USATF National Masters 5 and 10 Km, Decatur, Ill.
Sat. Aug. 7	3 Km, Langley, Va. (O)
Sun. Aug. 8	Ohio 5 Km, Cincinnati (M) Metropolitan 3 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)
Mon. Aug. 9	5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Fri. Aug. 13	5 Km, Loveland, Col. 7 pm (H)
Sat. Aug. 14	2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C) East Region 5 Km, Saratoga, N.Y., 7 pm (I)
Mon. Aug. 16	5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:50 pm (A)
Fri. Aug. 20	5 Km, Flint, Mich. (W)
Sat. Aug. 21	3 Km, Langley, Va. (O) USATF National 10 Km, Wilkes-Barre, Penn. (B)

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FROM HEEL TO TOE

Old info on old men. Way back in December, Richard Harper responded to an item in that month's issue as follows: "In the December issue, Colin Young writes of the amazing feats (and feats) of Gerhard Weidner with his world record in his forties and his great times into his sixties. The longevity of excellence in the sport of racewalking is something we need to celebrate and advertise. The list of "older" walkers is endless: Nick Bdera qualifyin for the Olympic Trials at 55, our three best female walkers, Michelle Rohl, Joanne Dow, and Teresa Vaill (41) making the Olympic "B" standard 35+. Nor is such excellence a recent phenomena. In the same December issue you note the Olympic silver medal of 41-year-old John Ljunggren. BUT we could have also included in the post 35 group the accomplishments of Revgeniy Ivchenko (Olympic bronze at 42), Tebbs Lloyd Johnson (Olympic bronze at 48), John Deni (U.S. Olympian at 52), Henry Laskau (u.S. Olympian at 40), Ernest Webb (Olympic silver at 40), Mary Nilsson (Women's World Cup gold at 40), not to mention the relative youngsters Yelena Nikolayeva (World Champion at 37), Kerry Saxby (World bronze at 38), John Mikaelsson and Thomas Green (Olympic gold at 38), and Vladimir Golubnichiy (ranked number 1 in the world at 38)." (Ed. And we might add Jonathan Matthews, second U.S. finisher in 1999 World Cup 20 Km at 42 and fourth in U.S. Olympic 50 Km Trial a year later at 43). "I don't know if bragging about this will get more youngsters or schools interested, but I don't think it could hurt. Well, that's my soap box." **Clinic.** Another Dave McGovern racewalking weekend is scheduled for Frankfort, Illinois June 25-27. Lectures, individual video-taped technique analysis, racing strategy, proper training methods, and more in one of Dave's highly praised clinics. Contact Jacquie Picha at schwider@aol.com for more information. . .

LOOKING BACK

40 Years Ago (From the Late Spring 1964 issue of the Midwest Race Walker, published by Chris McCarthy in Chicago)--Ron Laird was an easy winner in the National 30 Km in L.A. His 2:26:27 left Bob Bowman nearly 10 minutes back (2:36:16) in second. Rudy Haluza was third in 2:38:03. Two weeks later, Laird went on a record rampage. On May 15, he broke the American record for 1500 meters at the LA Coliseum Relays with a 5:57.0. Don DeNoon was second in 6:02.2. The next day in Walnut, Cal., Laird easily broke the American record he had set a few weeks earlier in Chicago for 1 Hour, covering 8 miles 420 yards. On the way, he took out the 10 Km record with a 44:58 and continued to records at 15 K (1:08:17) and 10 Miles (1:13:18). . .Dean Rassmuss was dominant on the other side of the country, winning the Penn AC 12 Mile in Philly with 1:37:06, 2 seconds ahead of Bob Mimm. Two weeks later he took a 15 miler on Staten Island in 2:00:35. Ron Daniel was 30 seconds back in that one. . .In a close race, Alex Oakley won the Ontario 10 Mile title in 1:17:08, ahead of Felix Cappella (1:17:15) and Nick Marrone (1:17:44).

35 Years Ago (From the May 1969 ORW)--This issue featured the first photos ever published in the ORW, and guess what? They showed several athletes in full flight phase as we launched the first of many series of commentaries on judging issues. . .And here was Laird again, winning the National 10 Km in Chicago in a championship record 45:14.2. Ron Daniel and Steve Hayden followed. . .One day later, Tom Dooley had no need to hang down his head as he set an American

record for the same distance in California, recording 44:26.9. Goetz Klopfer covered 15 miles in 1:54:32 at the same site. . . The Zinn Memorial 10 Km in Chicago went to your editor in a blazing 49:29. Blazing only because it was hot in Chicago that day. Passing 3 miles 4 seconds ahead of his pace of a week before (when he did 48:40 for seventh in that National 10), he then wilted, but not nearly as much as teammate Jack Blackburn, 15 seconds ahead of him the week before, but 4 1/2 minutes behind him on this day. . . Paul Nihill won British titles at both 10 Km (44:07) and 10 Miles (1:11:14).

30 Years Ago (From the May 1974 ORW)--John Knifton overcame a challenge from Floyd Godwin in the National 25 Km in Des Moines, Iowa, to win with a 1:56:03 effort. Floyd Godwin was just over 2 minutes back at the finish, followed by Jerry Brown and Bob Henderson. . . Larry Walker won the National 15 Km in California in 1:10:09, 5 seconds ahead of Carl Swift, who wasn't swift enough on this day. Ed Bouldin (1:11:43), Bill Ranney, Rudy Haluza, and Steve DiBernardo filled out the first six. . . Godwin also took the 10 Km in 45:42 with Henderson a distant second and aging Jack Mortland (39) a rather ashamed third (51:02) as few athletes showed up. I guess that was my final national medal and one not at all deserved. . . The National 20 went to Jerry Brown in 1:33:33, with Godwin taking John Knifton for second. Ron Daniel and Bob Henderson followed. . . East Germany's Peter Frenkel set a World Record for 30 Km (2:14:22) in East Berlin, with Chris Hohne less than 2 minutes back. A few weeks later, Hohne walked 50 Km in 3:53:53. . . In Hamburg, Bernd Kannenberg broke the World 20 Km record with a 1:24:45.

25 Years Ago (From the May 1979 ORW)--It was open season on the World's 20 Km record, which had been held by Mexico's Daniel Bautista at 1:23:22. On April 22, Anatoliy Solomin, USSR, did 1:23:20. One week later, Frenchman Gerard LeLievre took the record down to 1:22:20 in Epinay. Then on May 19, Bautista said "Enough!" Walking on the track in Valencia, Spain, he recaptured his record with a 1:22:25 effort. . . Jim Heiring's American record of 1:30:04 set on April 22 didn't last long either. Todd Scully turned in a 1:28:33 in Seattle on May 17. . . Chris Hansen won the U.S. 15 Km title in Kenosha, Wis., tying Canadian Marcel Jobin in the process, as both returned 1:06:58. Heiring was nearly a minute-and-a-half back with John VanDenBrandt following him. . . Scully whipped Hansen in the National 10 Km in Chicago in 43:14. Hansen beat Hansen this time, 43:55 to 44:16. VanDenBrandt was fourth. Scully discouraged the field with a 6:26 opening mile. . . The next day, Jobin beat Scully in the Zinn Memorial 10 Km, blasting 41:32. Todd had 42:15. . . The Women's National 15 Km event went to Paula Kash-Mori in 1:21:21, with Jeanne Bocci second. . . Alan Price was an easy winner in the National 100 Km in 10:36:35, with Tom Hamilton 47 minutes back in second. Jack Blackburn finished third, catching Sal Corrallo in the final 20 miles to take the master's title.

20 Years Ago (From the May 1984 ORW)--Denver had a weekend festival of National Walks. On Saturday, Tim Lewis (20:53) and Teresa Vaill (25:27) won titles at 5 Km. Mel McGinnis (21:27) and Vincent O'Sullivan followed Lewis and Mexico's Maria Colin was second in the women's race. On Sunday, O'Sullivan came back to win the National 30 Km in 2:22:48. Carl Schueler, better than 4 1/2 minutes back, edged Tom Edwards for second. Fabian Knizacky was fourth. . . Jim Heiring was an easy winner in the National 15 Km, held in New York City. Jim's impressive 1:03:07 left Tim Lewis 52 seconds back. Ray Sharp was just 5 seconds behind Tim and well clear of Marco Evoniuk. Ten athletes bettered 1:10. Teresa Vaill won the women's title in 1:17:27, 4 minutes ahead of Carol Brown. . . Marcel Jobin pulled away from Heiring after 5 Km to win his own Invitational 20 Km in Quebec with a 1:24:59. Heiring had 1:26:16 with Guillaume Leblanc close behind in third. . . In Norway, Mexico's Ernesto Canto shattered the world record at 20 Km with a 1:18:39. Daniel Bautista held the old record of 1:20:03. Marco Evoniuk was 10th

in the race in 1:26:30, and also turned in times of 1:25:13 and 41:13 (10 Km) in Copenhagen the next week.

15 Years Ago (From the May 1989 ORW)--National 15 Km titles went to Rene Haarpainter (1:06:06) and Victoria Herazo (1:16:30) in races held in Long Beach. Steve Pecinovsky trailed Haarpainter by just over a minute, with Richard Quinn third and Allen James fourth. Kim Wilkinson was just 5 seconds back in the women's race with Sara Standley third. . . Tim Lewis won the National Invitational 20 Km in Washington, D.C. in 1:26:52, leaving Doug Fournier 2:14 back. Mark Manning, Gary Morgan, Steve Pecinovsky, and Curtis Fisher were all under 1:30 in the next four spots. . . Lewis also won the Penn Relays 10 Km in 41:22, followed by Fournier (42:33) and Morgan (43:00). The women's 5 Km went to Teresa Vaill in 22:38 with Lynn Weik second in 23:03.

10 Years Ago (From the May 1994 ORW)--Daniel Garcia beat Ecuador's young Jefferson Perez by 3 seconds in 1:23:24 to win the Mexican Walk Week 20 Km. Bernardo Segura (1:23:30) and Hector Moreno, Columbia (1:24:03) were next. Al Heppner lead a U.S. contingent with 1:32:49 in 39th. . . In Durham, N.C., Dave McGovern beat Curt Clausen in a 20 Km, 1:32:06 to 1:33:21. Ian Whatley was just 3 seconds behind Clausen. In fourth was Mark Kautz, reportedly a 29 minute 10 Km runner just getting into racewalking who did 1:33:51--never to be heard of again by this reporter.

5 Years Ago (From the May 1999 ORW)--In the World Cup, Curt Clausen made a tremendous breakthrough, taking 6 1/2 minutes off his personal best (also the National best), as he finished 11th in the 50 Km in 4:48:04. Clausen moved up at least 10 places over the final 10 Km. The race went to Kazakhstan's Sergey Korepanov in 3:39:22 with Tomasz Lipiec, Poland, and Nikolay Matyukhin, Russia following. Russia beat Spain and Germany for the team title, with the U.S. in 10th, just 1 point behind Slovakia. Philip Dunn also had a breakthrough, becoming the ninth U.S. walker to go under 4 hours with 3:59:53 in 45th. Andrew Hermann (4:08:47) in 60th completed the U.S. scoring. In the Men's 20 Km, Mexico's Bernardo Segura (1:20:20) edged China's Guohui Yu and Russia's Vladimir Andreyev for the gold, with Robert Korzeniowski in fourth. Russia, Mexico, and China took the first three spots in the team race. The U.S. was 16th, led by Tim Seaman's 1:27:20 in 35th place. China's Hongyu Liu won the women's 20 in 1:27:32, ahead of Natalya Fedoskina, Russia, and Norica Cimpean, Romania. China, Russia, and Mexico finished in the top three spots. For the U.S., Michelle Rohl had 1:36:50 in 46th and Joanne Dow 1:38:08 in 53rd as the team finished 16th. . . A week later, Grand Prix races in Eisenhuettenstadt, Ger. went to Guatamala's Julio Martinez at 20 Km with 1:17:46 and China's Wang Yan at 10 Km in 41:16. Mexico's Lejandro Lopez had a 1:17:56 for second in the 20 and three others went under 1:20. Tim Seaman had 1:24:33 in 15th. . . Another week later, Romania's Claudia Iovan won a Grand Prix 10 Km in La Coruna, Spain with 43:04, the same time as second-place Maria Vasco of Spain. The LaCoruna 20 Km went to Spain's Francisco Fernandez in 1:21:55. . . National 15 Km titles were decided in Oak Grove, Ill., with Michelle Rohl (1:13:09) and Al Heppner (1:08:02) on top. Teresa Vaill was just 4 seconds behind Rohl and husband Mike Rohl just 16 behind Heppner.