

Mexican Races Kickoff 2006 IAAF Challenge Series

Tlalnepantla de Baz, Mexico, March 25-26—This Mexican community just north of Mexico City hosted the inaugural races of the IAAF Racewalking Challenge series, with 20 Km races for men and women on Saturday and a 50 Km race for men on Sunday. Winners were Ecuador's Jefferson Perez, Romania's Claudia Staf, and China's Gadasu Alatan.

Staf has been a consistent performer over the first two years of the Challenge and has fourth and eighth place finishes in the last two World Championships, but had yet to take the top spot on the victory stand. She ended that drought as she withstood the strong challenge of her Chinese rivals to cross the line in 1:33:27, impressive time for a season-opening race at an altitude of about 7000 feet. Three Chinese walkers followed her across the line, with Quiyan Jiang second in 1:33:33 and Dan He third in 1:33:42.

Staf, Jiang, and china's Na Shi shared the lead until the final kilometer, where the Romanian made her move and moved gradually clear of the others. Na dropped to fourth by the finish. The Chinese had brought a team of 13 (men and women) to Mexico on March 10 to acclimatize to the altitude.

Elena Ginko of Belarus was with the leaders most of the way, but faded to fifth, apparently suffering the effect of the altitude.

The 28-year-old Staf was second in the 2004 Challenge standings and third last year. After the race, she noted, "I am 70 percent of my best form and I should be on top in La Coruna. It was hard to beat fast walkers like the Chinese. I felt the pressure, but I saved my energy for the end and enjoyed my first victory in the Challenge."

Perez, who has many honors including golds in the 1996 Olympics and 2003 and 2005 World Championships, held off Mexico's Eder Sanchez to win in 1:23:17. Sanchez was six seconds back at the finish. Colombia's Luis Fernandez Lopez was a distant third in 1:24:25.

Even considering the altitude, the initial pace was rather leisurely for athletes of this caliber and at 10 Km, reached in 42:42, there were still 15 athletes in the lead group. As the pace quickened, Perez and Lopez took a slight lead by 14 Km. Perez put his foot down at 15 Km and covered the next 2 kilometers in 7:51 to take a comfortable lead of 26 seconds over Sanchez and 31 over Lopez.

But the 19-year-old Sanchez reacted and caught back up to Perez at 18 Km. He hung on for another kilometer, but Perez attacked again and managed to open his 6 second margin by the finish.

"I made a mistake," said Perez. "I was excited and thought I had secured the win over more experienced athletes I know, like Bernardo Segura and Daniel Garcia. It's great to see Eder leading the new generation in Mexico. He should be ready as the crowd will not be the same in the World Cup as it was here. We now want to win the individual and team competitions in the South American Cup in Cochabamba, Bolivia in April and then the World

The Ohio Racewalker is published monthly in Columbus, Ohio. Subscription rate is \$12.00 per year (\$15.00 outside the U.S.). Editor and Publisher: John E. Jack Mortland. Address all correspondence regarding both editorial and subscription matters to: Ohio Racewalker, 3184 Summit Street, Columbus, OH 43202. E-mail address is: jmortlan@columbus.rr.com. Approximate deadline for submission of material is the 24th of each month.

Cup in La Coruna, Spain." There, Perez will seek his fourth World Cup individual title.

For himself, Sanchez said, "It was tough competition. It is not easy to have the World Champion as a rival, but I am satisfied. I have trained hard and worked 100 percent on technique and all aspects. You learn a lot from him (Perez). I hope to finish among the top five in the World Cup. Representing Mexico and Latin America is a great feeling.

Lopez noted, "I am happy to be able to race with stars like Jefferson Perez and Bernardo Segura. I am satisfied with the result as I was injured and had to stop for three months. I just returned to training in January. In 2000, I saw Segura and Jefferson on TV. Today, I am their rival and that's very rewarding." (Segura was disqualified after crossing the finish line in fifth place.)

The race served as a World Cup qualifier for the Mexicans. Sanchez, Cristian Berdeja (fourth), Juan Emilio Toscano (fifth), and 1997 World Champion Daniel Garcia (who returned to competition after a long absence to finish seventh) were named to the team. Either Segura or ninth place Gabriel Ortiz will get the fifth slot.

In the 50 on Sunday, the two weeks of training at altitude paid off for Alatan who cruised to a win in 3:57:53, finishing ahead of Mexico's Omar Zepeda and the Spanish veteran and 1993 World Champion, Jesus Angel Garcia.

Alatan, 10th in the Athens Olympics, stayed in the chase pack behind early leader David Cortes, who took the lead after the first 10 Km, but was overtaken at 28 Km by Alatan, Ecuador's Segundo Penanel, and Mexican Claudio Vargas. Alatan made his move shortly before the field reached the 30 Km mark.

Gadasu never opened a huge lead but walked unchallenged at a pace of about 4:35 per km to the finish. Garcia dropped back temporarily with some stomach problems but rejoined the chase with Penafiel and Vargas a couple of kilometers later. Penafiel was sick at about 38 km, tired to continue, but had to drop out 3 km later. Vargas also faded and was overtaken by Garcia, Sepeda, and Mexican Horacio Nava.

Garcia and Zepeda walked stride for stride to 48 km, where Zepeda found a second gear and moved slowly to a 10 second margin by finish, 32 seconds behind the Chinese victor.

"I did not set any strategy. It is difficult to compete in the high altitude. I just walked with the leading pack until I felt strong and broke away," said Alatan. Last year, Alatan had the world's eighth fastest 50 Km time (3:40:23). He became the first Chinese winner of a Challenge race outside of China.

Zepeda noted, "We need to be more united, team work. If we work for each other, we can achieve great things in the 50 Km. Mexico has produced great walkers and we are able to keep the successful tradition. Zepeda was sixth in last year's World Championships. As for Garcia, "In Spain they call me the grandfather of athletics. I have been nursing a groin injury so I could not arrive well in advance to get used to the high altitude. I hope to perform well at home in the World Cup and win a medal at the European Championships in Gothenburg in August.

The top five Mexicans made their World Cup team. Fourth-place Horacio Nava (ninth in the 2005 World Championships) said, "This new generation (Nava is 24) is giving a

new air to Mexican racewalking. We needed a new racewalking team." The results:

Men's 20 Km: 1. Jefferson Perez, Ecuador 1:23:17 2. Eder Sanchez, Mexico 1:23:24 3. Luis Fernando Lopez, Colombia 1:24:25 4. Cristian Berdeja, Mex. 1:24:58 5. Juan Emilio Toscano, Mex. 1:25:53 6. Xavier Moreno, Ecuador 1:26:06 7. Daniel Garcia, Mex. 1:26:11 8. Yucheng Han, China 1:26:28 9. Gabriel Ortiz, Mex. 1:27:56 10. Alejandro Rojas, Mex. 1:28:22

Women's 20 Km: 1. Claudia Sef, Romania 1:33:27 2. Quiyan Jiang, China 1:33:33 3. Dan He, China 1:33:42 4. Na Shi, China 1:33:57 5. Elena Ginko, Belarus 1:34:21 6. Miriam Ramon, Ecuador 1:35:15 7. Hong Liu, China 1:36:34 8. Fabiola Go, dinwez, Mex. 1:37:48 9. Esther Sanchez, Mex. 1:40:26 10. Yawei Yang, China 1:41:02

Men's 50 Km: Gadasu Alatan, China 3:57:53 2. Omar Zepeda, Mexico 3:58:25 3. Jesus Angel Garcia, Spain 3:58:35 4. Horacio Nava, Mexico 3:59:57 5. Tianfeng Si, China 4:00:38 6. Claudio Vargas, Mexico 4:02:11 7. Alvaro Garcia, Mexico 4:08:51 8. Juan Toscano, Mexico 4:08:51 9. Viktor Ginko, Belarus 4:11:15 10. Rogelio Sanchez, Mexico 4:14:13 DNF-Segundo Penafiel and Xavier Moreno, Ecuador.

Peters Scores Double, ; Vergara Brothers Trade Wins In National High School Events

High School racewalkers participated in two National Indoor meets held on successive nights in March. On Friday, March 11, the Nike Indoor Nationals were held in Landover, Maryland and the next night the National Scholastic Championships were held in New York City. Both included 1 Mile racewalks for both boys and girls. And several athletes took advantage of the opportunity to compete in both.

In the women's races, Christina (Tina) Peters from Yellow Springs, Ohio walked a personal best to win a hotly contested race in Landover and then had a much easier time the next night as she came home first again. In the boy's races, the Vergara twins, already established in the national junior ranks though just high school sophomores, traded wins in the two races. Roberto won in Landover with a 6:49.20, the year's fastest prep time, but just .36 ahead of his twin. Ricardo reversed the order the next night and took the yearly lead with a 6:47.83, just .38 ahead of Roberto.

In the Landover girl's race, Heather Buletti of Westhampton, New York led through the first half in 3:40. But Peters stepped up the pace with a 53 second 200 meter lap with 600 meters to go and took command of the race. Her 7:25.71, a personal best by 8 seconds brought her home well clear of Buletti, who finished in 7:27.27. New York's Kate Cannon and Maine's Lauren Forgues were close behind, with all four well clear of the rest of the field.

Peters noted, "I just followed my coach's plan. He told me to stay behind until three laps to go and then push it. I never looked back. I knew there were some very good walkers behind me and I couldn't afford to let up." Her coach happens to be her father, Vince Peters, the USATF National Chairman for racewalking. Peters is also the Cedarville University coach. Peters and Forgues had been second and third behind Wisconsin's Katy Hayes last year.

In the boy's race, the Vergaras left the rest of the field well back, lapping all but one of their pursuers. The boys are sophomores at Edinburg High School and members of the

highly successful South Texas Walking Club.. (Their teammates were third and fifth in this race, and another teammate, Christopher Diaz, now a freshman at Northwood U., was second in the NAIA Indoor 3 Km.) They were born in California to a Mexican-American family, moving to Texas at age two. Both are fluent in English and Spanish

In New York, Peters expected a tussle with New York State Champion Brittany O'Brien. At the gun, O'Brien shot to the lead, followed by Jenna Monahan, Peters, and Canada's Kathryn Jackman. But, Monahan assumed the lead when O'Brien left the track, sick with the stomach flu and having already received a caution paddle. Monahan was unable to match Tina's pace, when the Ohio girl once again accelerated over the second half of the race. Peters was able to ease home with a 7:36.13 win. Jackman caught Monahan at the line, but received her third read card in the effort, giving Monahan second in 7:44.78, well clear of third place Shani Brown.

The Vergara twins were again untouchable. Ricardo went wide off the final turn to hold off his brother, crossing the line in 6:47.83, with Villareal again a distant third.

Nike H.S. Nationals, Landover, Maryland, March 11: Girl's 1 Mile: 1. Christina Peters, Yellow Springs, Ohio 7:25.71 (National Record 7:00.94, Katy Hayes, Wisconsin, 2004) 2. Heather Buletti, New York 7:27.27 3. Kate Cannon, New York 7:28.05 4. Lauren Forgues, Maine 7:30.97 5. Lindsay Conway New York 8:02.23 6. Carly O'Keefe, New York 8:04.46 7. Leah Buletti, New York 8:08.47 8. Jessica Reybal (7th grade), Texas 8:12.70 9. Amanda Johnson, Kentucky 8:28.49 10. Michelle Ganbaum, New York 8:31.15 11. Nicole Gomez, Texas 8:33.79 12. Eileen Patterson, New York 8:26.49 13. Emily Christopher, New York 8:40.76 14. Elizabeth Hoffberg, New York 8:46.56 15. Molly Woodford, Wisconsin 8:48.10 (20 finishers, 1 DNF) **Boys 1 Mile:** 1. Roberto Vergara, Texas 6:49.20 (National Record 6:11.0, Paul Tavares, New York, 1990) 2. Ricardo Vergara, Texas 6:49.56 3. Abraham Villareal, Texas 7:33.60 4. Kyle Shaffer, Mount Vernon, Ohio 7:51.15 5. Alejandro Chavez, Texas (7th grade) 7:51.70 7. Aaron Carroll, Maine 7:55.15 8. Tyler Campbell, Maine 7:57.01 9. Ren Morse, Maine 8:11.73 10. Allen Cox, Maine 8:27.02 **National Scholastic Indoor Championships, New York City, March 12: Girl's 1 Mile:** 1. Christina Peters, Ohio 7:36.13 2. Jenna Monahan, New York 7:44.78 3. Shani Brown, New York 7:55.41 4. Jennifer Tinnelly, New York 7:56.15 5. Julie Steel, New York 7:57.34 6. Mary Dutkoski, New York 8:04.95 7. Emilija Vaskyte, New York (8th grade) 8:07.75 8. Andrea Johnston, New York 8:14.48 9. Jessica Reybal, Texas 8:16.47 10. Lindsay, Conway, New York 8:17.25 11. Amit Aharon, New York 8:17.27 12. Elisa Lee, New York 8:20.93 13. Amanda Johnson, Kentucky 8:26.06 14. Sara Meade, Louisiana 8:28.74 5. Chelsea Conway, New York 8:29.34 (28 finishers, 1 DQ, 1 DNF) **Boy's 1 Mile:** 1. Ricardo Vergara, Texas 6:47.83 2. Roberto Vergara, Texas 6:48.21 3. Abraham Villareal, Texas 7:27.20 4. Aaron Carroll, Maine 7:44.28 5. Alejandro Chavez, Texas 6. Taylor Burns, Maine 7:44.89 7. Ren Morse, Maine 7:53.43 8. Tyler Campbell, Maine 7:56.88 9. Allen Cox, Maine 7:58.83

Gorst, Stroupe Triumph at NAIA Meet

Johnson City, Tenn., March 9—The NAIA, a national association of smaller colleges, held their Indoor National T&F Meet here, including 3 Km racewalks for both men and women. In the women's race, Virginia Intermont's freshman Amanda Gorst, from New Zealand, prevailed and in the men's race, last year's runnerup, Patrick Stroupe, of Central Methodist, came home first.

The women's race featured four of last year's top six finishers, but the quality of racing improved considerably, as last year's winner, Anine Stanley of Lindsey Wilson was

pushed back all the way to ninth. Last year, Stanley won in 16:05. Gorst broke away from Malone's Lindsey Hipp, over the second half of the race to win in 14:39.30. (Amber Antonia holds the meet record at 13:56.06.) Hipp was only 10 seconds aback at the finish and improved her time from last year by 2 1/2 minutes. Hipp is a junior. Sophomore Caitlin Ayers of Lindenwood repeated her third place finish of last year, but improved her time by more than a minute.

In the men's race, Stroupe, second to Matt Boyles last year, also powered away the second half of the race to win in 13:13.27. He beat USATF National Junior Team member Chris Diaz, now a freshman at Northwood in Texas by 35 seconds. There had been some talk of eliminating the walks from the NAIA program, which were quelled by a vote of the coaches. Competitive fields of 16 in the women's race and 17 in the men's should help to ensure the future of the event.

Women: 1. Amanda Gorst, Virginia Intermont 14:39.30 2. Lindsay Hipp, Malone College 14:49.96 3. Caitlin Ayers, Lindenwood 15:12.28 4. Ashley Thomas, Malone 15:21.68 5. Jennifer Reekie, Lindenwood 15:26.63 6. Po-man Lo, Vir. Intermont 15:54.76 7. Missy Walker, Malone 16:27.36 8. Amanda Sullivan, Roberts Wesleyan 16:27.36 9. Anine Stanley, Lindsey Wilson 16:39.10 10. Kelly Steingass, Cedarville 16:42.11 11. Raven Pilgrim, Vir. Intermont 17:02.13 12. Britney Williams, Mount Marty 17:59.14 13. Brittany Lyons, Malone 19:27.15 14. Talathia Weekes, Lindsey Wilson 19:42 (1 DQ)

Men: 1. Patrick Stroupe, Central Methodist 13:13.27 2. Christopher Diaz, Northwood 13:48.57 3. Brad Sinick, Malone 15:04.87 4. Tim Thurber, Concordia 15:10.43 5. Natue Hughes, Malone 15:10.51 6. Kevin Conrey, Missouri Valley 15:23.88 7. Johe Pfiel, Azusa Pacific 15:47.75 8. Everson Marsh, Azusa Pacific 15:56.68 9. Nathan Dreher, Concordia 16:03.10 10. Mitch Howell, Azusa Pac. 17:04.11 11. David Hernandez, Biola U. 17:04.12 12. Bryan Lopes, Malone 17:45.13 13. Geoff Karhoff, Central Methodist 17:50.15 14. Mike Groholy, Walsh 18:04.15 15. Jeremiah Stauffer, Malone 18:46 (2 DQ)

Deakes Scores Commonwealth Double, Aussies Dominate

Melbourne, March 20—In the British Commonwealth Games, Australia's Nathan Deakes showed why he is ranked as one of the world's premier walkers, winning the 20 Km title on Monday, March 20 and coming back four days later to take the 50. He scored both wins with impressive, world-class times. On Monday, Australian swept the medals in both the men's and women's 20 Km. In the 50, they missed the silver but took the bronze along with Deakes' gold.

In the men's 20, Deakes and Luke Adams broke up the field immediately with a fast early pace. Indeed, so fast that Adams had to give up the chase after just 2 Km. Deakes went through the first 10 in 39:36. Not saving anything for the 50, he continued for a superb solo effort of 1:19:55. Adams came home in a splendid 1:21:38 and Jared Tallent completed the Aussie sweep in 1:23:32. Kenya's David Kimutai Rotich was a strong fourth in 1:25:42, some 5 minutes ahead of fifth place.

In the women's race, the Saville sisters, Jane and Natalie were one-two, joined by teammate Cheryl Webb in third. South Africa's Nicolen Cronje was well back in fourth. Jane won her third Commonwealth gold as she won in 1:32:46, following an opening 10 Km of 45:48. Natalie was not embarrassed by her sister as she finished in 1:33:33, 2 1/3 minutes ahead of Webb.

Deakes had even less of a competitive challenge in the 50, but still walked a brilliant 3:42:53, more than 15 minutes ahead of New Zealand's Tony Sargisson. This looked

like another Aussie sweep until Duane Cousins was disqualified while in second and 30 seconds ahead of teammate Chris Erickson at 56 Km. But, it was not to be in any case as Sargisson overhauled Erickson on the last lap for the silver.

Women's 20 Km: 1. Jane Saville, Australia 1:32:46 2. Natalie Saville, Australia 1:33:33 3. Cheryl Webb, Australia 1:35:03 4. Nicolene Cronje, S. Africa 1:38:19 5. Suzanne Erasmus, S. Africa 1:40:54 6. Deepmala Davi, India 1:41:54 7. Johanna Jackson, England 1:42:04 7. Niobe Menendez, England 1:47:35 DNF—Geetha Gallage, SRI

Men's 20 Km: 1. Nathan Deakes, Australia 1:19:55 2. Luke Adams, Australia 1:21:38 3. Jared Tallent, Australia 1:23:32 4. David Kimutai Rotich, Kenya 1:25:42 5. Parayil Jalan, India 1:30:43 6. Daniel King, England 1:31:17 7. Dominic King, England 1:32:54 8. Andrew Penn, England 1:32:54 DNF—Dip Chand, Fiji DQ—Abd Mohd Sharrulhaizy, Malaysia

Men's 50 Km: 1. Nathan Deakes, Australia 3:42:53 2. Tony Sargisson, New Zealand 3:58:05 3. Christopher Erickson, Australia 3:58:22 4. Craig Barrett, N.Z. 4:02:27 6. Tim Berrett, Canada 4:08:18 6. Julie Partington, Isle of Man 4:25:39 7. Abd Mohd Sharrulhaizy, Malaysia 5:07:32 DQ—Charles Arosanyin, Nigeria and Duane Cousins, Australia

Other Results

National Masters Indoors, Boston, March 26: Women: 40-44—1. Ginger Armstrong 18:33.96 45-49—1. Maryanne Daniel 15:32.32 50-54—1. Stephanie Lyness 16:25.93 2. Heidi Duskey 20:08.17 55-59—1. Yoko Eichel 17:04.52 2. Panse Geer 17:52.39 55-59—1. Patricia Godfrey 21:26.13 60-64—1. Jolene Steigerwalt 18:28.7 2. Kathleen Frable 19:08.46 3. Joanne Harriman 19:43.19 75-59—1. Katherine Marrs 21:34.89 80-84—1. Miriam Gordon 23:08.58 Men: 40-45—1. David Burns 15:59.75 DQ—William Vayo 50-54—1. Jeffrey McClung 18:32.61 2. Peter Blank 22:29.62 55-59—1. Bob Keating 15:23.02 2. Robert Ullman 16:37.33 DQ—Joe Light DNF—Bill Harriman 60-64—1. Norm Frable 16:21.98 2. James Carmine 16:37.19 3. Edoardo Sorrenti 16:53.97 65-59—1. Paul Johnson 17:07.44 2. Tom Knatt 18:57.61 3. Spencer Parrish 21:34.24 DQ—Gustave Davis 70-74—1. Jack Bray 17:17.97 2. Alfred DuBois 20:00.42 DQ—Hughes Burton 75-79—1. Jack Starr 18:42.33

New York State Girl's Hi 3 Kmgh School Meet 1500 meters, March 4—1. Brittany O'Brien 6:55.22 2. Kate Cannon 6:56.03 3. Heather Buletti 7:03.27 4. Jenna Monahan 7:12.46 5. Shani Brown 7:19.48 6. Julie Steel 7:22.33 7. Jennifer Tinnelly 7:35.78 8. Carly O'Keefe 7:44.65 9. Mary Dutkoski 7:49.10 10. Andrea Johnson 7:51.09 11. Amit Aharon 7:52.85 (19 finishers, 3 DQ) **Metropolitan Championships, New York City, March 3: 1 Mile—1. Joe Trapani 7:11.77 2. Mike Rohl (40) 7:44.13 3. Sarah Groat 8:42 4. Sherri Stager (45) 8:57 5. Limei Alice Tan 9:06 6. Kristina Bonfiglio 9:26 (1 DQ) 3 Km—1. Leo Romero 13:20.36 2. Bill Vayo 15:09 3. Adrian Jamie 15:49 4. Gary Null (60) 15:14 5. Louanne Pennesi (50) 18:29 6. Melissa Goldman 18:30 **5 Km, New York City, March 19—1. Leo Romero 22:40 2. Solomiya (female) 25:19 3. Jussi Koski 25:35 4. Shani Brown (17) 27:47 5. Bruce Logan (41) 27:53 6. Alexis Davidson (50) 29:23 7. Erin Taylor (female) 29:30 8. Alice Tan 30:09 9. Jack Cohn (62) 30:15 10. David Lee (51) 30:18 11. Debbie Chen (17) 30:21 12. Luanne Pennesi (51) 30:28 13. Jessica Chen (17) 32:00 14. Ruth Gersh (52) 33:21 15. Ray Nieves (47) 33:39 (30 finishers) **New Jersey Indoor 3 Km, Jersey City, March 4—1. John Soucheck 14:15.55 Women—1. Panse Geer 17:53 5 Km, Winter Park, Fla., Feb. 19—1. Juan Moscoso 27:08 2. James Carmine (60+) 28:24 3. Tom Furman (50+) 30:35 (6 finishers) Women—1. Edna Ramsay 31:07 2. Sandra DeNoon (50+) 31:24 3. Janine Campbell (50+) 32:50 (14 finishers) **10 Miles, Yellow Springs, Ohio, March 5—1. Matt Boyles 1:18:31 2. Ed Fitch (44) 1:31:26 3. Tina Peters (18) 1:38:56 4. Susan Randall 1:39:03 5. Bill Whipp (61) 1:52:35 6. James Kniesly (62) 1:53:45 7. Pat Darling (69) 1:53:51 **Mason Dixon Games, Louisville, Ken., March 3—3 Km—1. Doug Johnson (45) 14:06.43 1500 meters—1. Amanda**********

Johnson (17) 7:44.26 2. Caroline Johnson (13) 10:17 **AAU Southern Indoor Nationals, Kinnoxville, Tenn., Feb. 26—Young Women 3 Km—1. Amanda Johnson 17:20.58 2. Devin Philson (16) 19:09 Indoor 1 Mile, Kenosha, Wis., March 3—1. Le'erin Voss (17) 8:00.9 2. Lynn Tracey (52) 8:45.3 3. Mark Sekelsky (47) 8:55.3 4. Judy Myers (50) 8:55.6 5. Ron Winkler (55) 9:49.7 (8 finishers) **Minnesota USATF Indoor 3 Km, March 5—1. Felix Ato-Davies 15:48 2. Karl Dahl (45+0 17:44 3. Dave Daubert (60+) 17:47 4. Tish Borgen 18:21 (10 finishers, 1 DQ) 100 Miles, Houston, Feb. 25-26—1. Jens Borello, Denmark 23:21:14 (62nd U.S. Centurion) (six other competitors, but none finished 100 miles.. Ollie Nanyes from Illinois covered 76.30 miles in 24 hours for seconde place.) **Gulf @0 Km, Houston, March 12—1. Alberto Medina (45) 1:59:02 2. Susan Brooks (40), Canada 2:13:02 3. Maryann Ramirez (45) 2:47:26 (First racewalk) 1 Mile, Texas Southern Relays, Houston, March 25—1. Mario Alanis (43), Mexico 8:17.96 2. Rusty Gorman (42) 8:46.09 3. Bob Watson (45) 8:49.14 4. Bob Cella (68) 9:24.80 5. Ariel Callis (13) 9:52.12 6. Dave Gwyn (54) 9:55.46 7. Bertrand Myers (61) 11:09.15 **5 Km, Denver, Feb. 5—1. Daryl Meyers (63) 30:37 2. Mike Haymans (58) 32:39 5 Km, Denver, Feb. 12—1. Mike Blanchard (44) 28:21 2. Daryl Meyers 30:33 3. Mike Heymans 31:57 5 Km, Denver, Feb. 19—1. Mike Blanchard 30:16 2. Daryl Meyers 30:48 Indoor 3 Km, Colorado Springs, Feb. 26—1. Al Leibold (47) 15:51 2. Mike Blanchard 16:14 **10 Miles, Los Angeles—1. Philip Dunn 1:17:42 2. Dave McGovern (40+) 1:18:36 3. Chris Rael (40+) 1:29:30 4. Pedro Santoni (40+) 1:32:59 5. Margaret Ditchburn 1:34:01 . . . 60-69 Female—1. Jolene Steigerwalt 1:46:49. . . 60-69 Male—1. John Backlund 1:43:35 . . . 70-79 Male—1. Carl Acosta 1:50:55 (18 finishers) **5 Km, Same place—1. Yoko Eichel 19:21 2. Donna Cunningham 29:21 (both 50+) 3. Yaron Cohen 31:37 4. Deborah Raymer (40+) 31:40 5. Janet Robinson (60+) 32:20 (24 finishers) 3 Km, Kentfield, Cal., Feb. 25—1. Kevin Killingsworth 15:26 2. Jack Bray 17:55 (6 finishers) **3 Km, Portland, Oregon, March 11—1. Rob Frank (53) 16:11 2. George Opsahl (64) 17:03 (6 finishers) 2.8 Miles, Seattle, Feb. 11—1. Bob Novak (56) 25:56 2. Stan Chraminski (58) 25:56 3. Ann Tuberg (46) 27:14 4. Coco Beuchet (57) 27:14 5. Bart Kale (49) 27:15 (9 finishers)**************

5 Km, Melbourne, Aust., March 9—1. Nathan Deakes 18:45.19 2. Luke Adams 19:01.73 3. Adam Rutter 19:36.30 4. Michael McCagh 19:55 5. Duane Cousins 20:09 6. Christopher Erickson 20:36 (10 under 22 minutes) **5 Km, Brisbane, Aust., March 3—1. Jane Saville 21:48.58 2. Natalie Saville 21:56.97 3. Cheryl Webb 22:04.39 4. Claire Woods 22:45 5. Michelle French 22:53 6. Lisa Grant 23:15 Masters 3 Km, Auckland, N.Z., Feb. 26—1. Gary Little (65+) 15:06.4 2. Paul Johnson, US (65+) 16:59.6 3. John Backlund, US (65+) 18:04.4 **10 Km, same place—1. Little 53:17.9 2. Johnson 61:21.1 3. Backlund 64:29.2 Polish Indoor Championships, Feb. 25: Men's 5 Km—1. Grzegorz Sudol 19:04.24 2. Ilya Markov, Russia 19:04.40 3. Benjamin Kucinski 19:22.38 4. Kamil Kulka 19:30.34 Women's 3 Km—1. Agnieszka Olesz 13:31.60 2. Agnieszka Dygacz 13:41.59 **Finnish Indoor Championships, Tampere, Feb. 25: Men's 5 Km—1. Asntti Kempas 20:18.36 2. Jani Lehtinen 20:32 3. Timo Viljanen 21:15 Women's 3 Km—1. Outi Sillanpaa 13:45.53 2. Tiina Nuinonen 14:07.76 3. Maija Sippola (16) 24:36.16 **French Indoor Championships, Feb. 26: Women's 3 Km—1. Slwia Korzeniowska 12:42.55 2. Christine Guinadea 13:08 3. Fatiha Ouati 13:27 4. Tatiana Denize 13:34 Men's 5 Km—1. Denis Langlois 20:20.16 2. Sebastian Biche 20:14 3. Sebastian DeLauney 21:14 **10 Km (road), Italy, Feb. 5—1. Elisa Rigauda 46:30 2. Emanuela Perilli 48:25 3. Annarita Fidenza 49:00 4. Cristiana Pellino 49:13 (69 finishers, 2 DQ) **Cuban National 20 Km, Havana, March 26—1. Yubraile Hernandez 1:27:33 Women—1. Yarelis Sanchez 1:38:50************

Have A Penchant For Racewalking. Opportunities Abound

Sun. April 2	5 and 10 Km, Walnut, Cal. (Y) 5 Km, Kentfield, Cal., 8 am (P) 5.3 Miles, Brunswick, Maine, 1 pm (D)
Sat. April 8	2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C) 5 Mile, Denver, 9 am (H) 1500 meters, and/or 3Km, 5 Km, Clermont, Fla.(B)
Sat. April 15	5 and 10 Km, Washington, D.C., 7:30 (S)
Sat. April 22	10 Km, Seattle(C) Metropolitan 10 Km, New York City, 8:30 am (G)
Sun. April 23	Ron Zinn Memorial 10 Km, Wall Twp., N.J. (A) 5 Km, Fair Oaks, CA (E)
Fri. April 28	5 Km, Fair Oaks, Cal. (E)
Sat. April 29	5 and 10 Km, Denver, 8 am (H) Penn Relays Men's 10 Km, Women's 5 Km, Philadelphia(I)
Fri. May 5	5 Km (track), Sioux Falls, S.D., 1:30 pm (K)
Sun. May 7	Western Regional 5 Km, Sequel, Cal.(J) USATF National Masters 15 Km, Riverside, Cal. (Y) Jack Mortland Walks (5, 10, and 20 Km), Dayton, Ohio (M)
Sat. May 13	5.3 Miles, Brunswick, Maine, 1 pm (D) 2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am © 5 Km, Denver, 8:30 am (H) 5 Km, Kentfield, Cal., 7:30 am (P)
Sun. May 14	5.3 Miles, Brunswick, Maine, 1 pm (D) 3 Km, Arlington, Vir. (S) 5 Km, Denver, 8 am (H)
Sat. May 20	5 Km, Thornton, Col., 8 am (H)
Sun. May 21	Masters 10 Km, Denver, 9 am (H) South Region 10 Km, Pharr, Texas (O) 5, 10, 20 Km, and 1 Hour, Point Pleasant, N.J. (A)
Sat. May 27	10 and 20 Km, Colorado (H) Pac. Assn. 5 Km, Sacramento (E) 1500 meters to 5 Km, Clermont, Fla. (U)
Sun. May 28	Alongi 5 Km, Kentfield, Cal. (P) Art Keay Memorial 5, 10, and 20 Km, Totonto, Ontario ® 3 Km, Arlington, Va. (S) Sanford Kalb 9 Mile, Lakewood, N.J. (A) 10 Km, Boulder, Col., 7 am (H)
Mon. May 29	Masters 1500 meters and 3 Km, Seattle ©
Sat. June 3	5.3 Miles, Brunswick, Maine, 1 pm (D)
Sat. June 10	1500 to 5 Km, Clermont, Fla. (U) 1 Mile, Colts Neck, N.J. (A)
Sun. June 11	1 Hour, Kentfield, Cal. (P) 3 Km, Arlington, Va. (S)
June 16-17	South Region Club Championships 5 and 10 Km, Waco, Texas ((L)

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From Heel To Toe

IAAF Challenge. The IAAF Racewalking Challenge, now entering its third year, is a series of races with a straightforward point system to determine places at the end of the year. In each race, the winner receives 10 points, the runnerup 9, and so on to one for the tenth place finisher. Final standings are based on addition of the three best results achieved by each athlete. The overall winner will receive \$30,000, second place \$20,000, third place \$15,000, graduating down to \$5000 for eighth place. The overall winners in 2005 were Spain's Francisco Fernandez and Balarus' Margaryta Turava with 30 and 29 points respectively. Among women, Portugal's Susana Feitor was second and Claudia Stef or Romania third, Italy's Elisa Rigauda was fourth. Australia's Nathan Deakes and Spain's Juan Manuel Molina were second and third in the men's standings. None of last year's World Champions—Jefferson Perez, Olimpiada Ivanova, and Sergey Kirdyapkin—competed in enough races to figure in the standings. Remaining Challenge races for this year will be held in Rio Maior, Portugal on April 15, in Yangzhou, China on April 22, Sesto San Giovanni, Italy on May 1, and at the World Racewalking Cup in La Coruna, Spain May 13-14. . .**Brunswick update.** Last month we had a note on the monthly 5.3 mile racewalk events in Brunswick. An update: The series has been changed from the second to the first Sunday of each month (as reflected in our schedule of events). Also, if enough walkers show up who are interested in a shorter event, a mile or 5 Km race might be added to the schedule. And we neglected to mention that there is a \$500 prize to the walker who achieves the fastest time on the course

during the 2006 series. Furthermore, all walkers who complete five or more of the races will have their names thrown in a hat, from which will be drawn a \$100 winner. So, get thee to Maine and take a shot at the big bucks. The first event in March saw just one competitor—Bob Whitney, who walked a 59:00. That's the present target to shoot for.

Honors. A recent inductee to the Capital University Athletic Hall of Fame is Bob Lewis. Capital is located in the Columbus suburb of Bexley. Most of you probably won't know Bob, but he was the track coach at Frostburg State when Carl Schueler launched his racewalking career. Carl won the NAIA Indoor 2 Mile in 1978, with a time of 13:53.6, while at Frostburg under the tutelage of Bob. Two years later, he became the first American to go under 4 hours for 50 Km and went on from there to win 14 national titles and be on four Olympic teams. So racewalking owes Bob thanks for encouraging Carl as he launched his racewalking career.

Bob, who also went to high school in Columbus, used to run in many of the walk/runs that the Ohio TC sponsored. While coaching at Frostburg, he had three teams win NCAA Division II national titles, and 14 other teams that placed in the top 10. Coaching both track and cross country and both men and women he had teams that won 58 conference titles. Bob is currently a professor at Frostburg and coordinator of the master's program in human performance.

2008 Olympic Trials. According to Vince Peters, the USATF National Office and the Racewalk Committee are preparing a request for proposal to be sent to any USATF Associations, clubs, race conductors, or government and civic organizations (such as sports commissions and chambers of commerce) interested in bidding on the 2008 Olympic Trials for the 50 Km racewalk. The proposed date is Presidents Day weekend—February 16-17. A site in a part of the U.S. with suitable weather at that time of year is preferable. Any organization interested can contact Vince at 937-767-7424, mv_tc@sbcglobal.net.

Another Peters. Despite the fact that father Vince coaches at Cedarville U. Near her home in Yellow Springs, Ohio, double National high school 1 mile winner, Christina Peters is accepting a track and field scholarship for racewalking at Goshen College in Indiana. Goshen is an NAIA member, that being the only national collegiate group that includes the walks in their national meets. In Ohio, there are six NAIA schools that currently have racewalkers on their track teams—Cedarville, Malone College, Walsh College, Notre Dame College, Rio Grande College, and Tiffin University. National class walkers Chad Eder (Cedarville), Jill Cobb nee Zenner (Cedarville) and Matt Boyles (Rio Grande) have come out of those programs. Perhaps Tina can get the ball rolling in Indiana. Vince suggests that with the growth of racewalking in the small college ranks there may be more financial aid available to racewalkers that there are currently high school walkers to take advantage of them. Tina has captained her high school track and cross country teams. She played three years of basketball, but gave that sport up in her senior year to focus on her track event. She was a district champion in the 1600 meter run last spring and has 5 Km cross country best of 20:17. Tina will major in physics at Goshen.

In her immediate future, Tina has her eye on a spot of the U.S. Junior team for the World Cup in May. Over the long-term, she is setting her sites on an Olympic berth for the 2012 Games in London. **And another scholarship.** Further evidence of the availability aid Vince mentions: Kentucky's Amanda Johnson has accepted a scholarship based on her racewalking ability to another NAIA school, Lindsey Wilson in her home state. **Sportswoman.** Jean Frummenkant, 89, a member of the Heartland Racewalkers of Overland Park, Kansas, was chosen as the Senior Sportswomen of the Year by the Kansas City Sports Commission and the Women's Intersport Network. The award goes to a woman 50 or older who demonstrates superior athletic achievement, outstanding leadership qualities, and who encourages participation of girls and women in sports and fitness. Jean has won Gold medals in the 1500 meter and 5 Km racewalks at the National Senior Olympics in 1993, 1991, and 2005.

Saville totes flag. Australia's world-class racewalker, Jane Saville, was selected by her

fellow athletes to carry the Australian flag in the Opening Ceremonies of the Commonwealth Games. Another feather in the hat for our sport. **Deer on the course.** A side story on the National 50 In Clermont, Florida last month comes from Robert Carver, who participated in the race: "The race was held at Lake Louisa State Park and being a state park, you have a chance to see wildlife, including deer. During the race I spotted several deer in brush near the course. As I was coming back from the turnaround on my second lap, I saw a doe trying to cross the road, but the racewalkers made her skittish. She made a big lllp and charged the road in full gallop. She crossed within 5 feet of winner Philip Dunn, who was coming the opposite direction. Judge Sandra DeNoon was also there to witness this event. Next to Sandy was a deer crossing sign. (Ed. The deer knew what she was doing.) Philip seemed unphased and continued on, but later acknowledged that he thought it was kind of cool. Lorreta Schuellein, behind Dunn, couldn't believe what she was seeing." Robert was making his first attempt at a 50, but his legs gave out and he dropped out at 30 Km. **No kidding.** It's hard to believe, but I'm not kidding. This issue starts the 42nd year of publication for the Ohio Racewalker. I can guarantee there won't be 42 more, but certainly never imagined when Jack Blackburn and I mailed a five-page inaugural, reproduced on an ancient ditto machine, that I was launching a veritable career. Many thanks to many long-time and very loyal subscribers. While there has been a steady decline in circulation over the past 15 to 20 years, in lock step with the decline in participation at elite levels, there is still a spark of interest out there and we motor on. **Stein in Columbus.** The Buckeye Striders are bringing Bonnie Stein to Columbus in June for a clinic, Racewalking For Fitness and Fun. The clinic on June 10 and 11 will feature seminars and practice on the track from 9 am to 4:30 pm on Saturday and 9 to noon on Sunday. Bonnie is a certified personal training specialist, author, and walking consultant. She has published more than 200 articles on walking and fitness. She will also be available for private lessons on Friday and Monday. An additional clinic for experienced racewalkers will be held on Sunday afternoon. Cost for the basic clinic ranges from \$95 to \$125 depending on date of registration. For further information, contact Deb Chenault, 1962 Starbridge Court, Columbus, OH 43235, or email Bonnie@AceWalker.com. **Dean Ingram.** Last month, we noted Dean Ingram's passing. Bev LaVeck who knew Dean well in Seattle offers more on Dean. "Many of you didn't know him well and didn't know how much he contributed to racewalking here and nationally. He was always ready to step in when and where needed to hold things together and make sure the program continued. He and Martin Rudow took turns offering a free RW clinic every Wednesday evening at Lower Woodland—he was my introduction in December, 1979 when I was trying to recover from a running injury.

Perez Points to La Coruna

by Eduardo Biscayart for the IAAF (A story written prior to the first IAAF Challenge event reported on page 1)

At age 31 and with all the possible athletics honors under the belt, Ecuadorian racewalker Jefferson Perez is preparing for another athletics season, the eighteenth of his international career with the objective of winning the 2006 IAAF World Racewalking Cup, which will take place in the Spanish city of La Coruna on May 13-14.

Since he emerged onto the world scene when winning the 20 Km at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, which today is still the only Olympic medal obtained by Ecuador, Perez has been the most prominent athlete of South America. After Atlanta's glory, other victories followed, such as the 2003 and 2005 IAAF World Championships, the 1997, 2002,

and 2004 World Cup, and the 2003 Pan-American Games (which he also won in 1995). All that topped with the current World record of 1:17:21

Still, Perez who now is one of the most popular personalities in his country, finds enough motivation to set goals on and off the track, or the roads, as it should be in his case.

All the honors earned by Jefferson have given him great recognition beyond athletics in his country, even to the extent of making him a true national hero. In November of 2005, his native city of Cuenca unveiled a statue in his honor in the main park "Parque de la Madre, remembering his victory in Atlanta, with the vice-president of Ecuador, Alejandro Serrano, in attendance at the ceremony.

Also, the "Banco Central del Ecuador" is to introduce 300 commemorative gold-90 percent gold and 10 percent copper-and 10,000 nickel-copper coins in April to celebrate Jefferson's glorious moment in Atlanta. Those coins shall have the value of 1 Bolivar, and one side will show Perez's image and a brief text "Bicampep Mundial-campeon Olimpico Atlanta", which translates to "two times World Champion-Atlanta Olympic Champion."

All that hoopla has not sidetracked Jefferson at all. Perhaps the only change is reflected in his competitive calendar, which is somehow lighter than it used to be. "The reason for that is that I'm trying to complete my master's degree in business administration, which I want to have done by July or August", said Perez.

"My training is going very well here in Ecuador", added Jefferson, speaking from his home in Cuenca. "Our group, which includes Rolando Saquipay, Segundo Penafiel, and several junior athletes is in very good shape, though comparing it with the 2005 season, this one is slightly different. The main reason is that our goal this time-the World Cup-is in May, while last year was in August (the 2005 World Championships). The rest will be pretty similar to what we did last year."

"I'm pretty sure that my first competition of the season will be in Mexico at the IAAF Racewalking Challenge, even though I have received invitations for Portugal and China. Happens that because of my studies, I can't take long trips and that is why I will perhaps compete in Mexico. It's much closer."

"I might engage in other regional events, but this would be the only one we will insert into the preparation as a test. Then in April, we shall begin the final phase of our work. We are still not sure about the place. Last year we worked well in Arequipa, Peru, and we chose that city because it had altitude and some similarities with Helsinki."

"La Coruna is a bit warmer, and perhaps more humid, so we might go to a different place in Peru, or perhaps to Mexico. Maybe to Queretaro or Puebla. We shall make that decision soon. Here in Ecuador, we have great venues, but sometimes it's better to be in a quieter place. If I stay here, I know I will have more distractions, and I want to avoid that. My goal is to win my fourth World Cup in La Coruna, and to lead Ecuador to a good place in the team competition, to perhaps improve our second from Naumburg in 2004", ended the World Champion.

LOOKING BACK

40 Years Ago (From the March 1966 ORW)-Rudy Haluza launched what was probably his most successful year in racewalking (and not discounting his Olympic fourth place finish 2 years later) with a storming last lap to nip Don DeNoon in the National Indoor 1 Mile. In Albuquerque's altitude, DeNoon's very fast early pace proved to be his downfall. Going through 4:40 in 1:31 and 880 in 3:06, DeNoon was nearly 50 yards up on Rudy, who had 1:38 and 3:18. However, Rudy maintained his pace, while DeNoon staggered through a final quarter in 1:53. Gaining 20 yards on the final lap, Haluza caught his struggling opponent at

the line to win in 6:39.2. Ron Daniel was third in 6:43.8 with Larry Walker fourth. . Ron Laird, only fifth in the mile, earlier broke three American records in a San Diego race. He covered 15 miles in 1:57:36, 25 Km in 2:02:0a, and 15 miles, 501 yards in 2 hours. D. DeNoon set an American outdoor 2 Mile record of 13:38.6, also in San Diego.

35 Years Ago (From the March 1971 ORW)-Tom Dooley covered 20 Km in 1:32:33 in San Francisco. . . Although well behind Dooley in that 20, Goetz Klopfer shone in a Seattle race, setting American records at 15 miles, 25 Km, and 2 Hours-1:52:44, 1:56:53, and 15 miles 1578 yards. However, since he was in a 20-mile race that he failed to finish, he never got the records in the book. . Greg Diebold won the IC4A (collegiate) indoor Mile in 6:51.8. He also had a 6:37.6 in Albany, N.Y., edging Ron Kulik.

30 Years Ago From the March 1976 ORW)-In the National Indoor Meet, veteran Ron Laird captured the 2 Mile in 13:37 and Sue Brodock the women's 1 Mile in 7:12.7. Although he controlled the race throughout, Laird was only 1.6 seconds ahead of Larry Walker and Todd Scully at the finish. Ron Daniel and Dave Romansky were also under 13:50 in a tight finish. The Ohio Track Club's Laurie Tucholski was second to Brodock in 7:39.6. . Laird and Scully journeyed to Leningrad with the U.S. National track team, but couldn't cope with the Soviet walkers. Yevgeiny Yesyukov won the 5 Km indoor race in 20:21.8 with Alexis Troitski close behind in 20:31.6. Scully had 21:06 and Laird 21:56.2. . . Jim Heiring won the NAIA Indoore 2 Mile in 14:07.3, breaking his own meet record. Carl Schueler was second in 14:49. . On his way from Leningrad to Mexico, Senor Laird stopped off in Springfield, Ohio for a friendly 6 miler, winning handily in 44:39. In a battle of aging Jacks, Mortland beat Blackburn 49:49 to 50:00. Laurie Tucholski did 51:56. . Larry Walker won the L.A. Times Indoor Mile in 6:28.1

25 Years Ago (From the March 1981 ORW)-The Eastern Interscholastic Indoor Mile went to Andy Liles in 6:50.3. He was followed by Bill Isberg (6:54.4), Pat Morone (6:59.6), and Jim Mann (7:09.3). . . At the Philadelphia Track Classic, Todd Scully won the 1 Mile in 6:18.8, 6.2 seconds ahead of Tim Lewis. . . An indoor 3 Mile in Madison, Wis., went to Ray Sharp in 11:42.5. Jim Heiring was second in 11:52. . In the European Indoor Championships, the 5 Km racewalk went to Hans Gauder of East Germany in 19:08.59. Italy's Maurizio Damilano was second in 19:13.90. . Moving outdoors, Dan O'Connor had 1:33:53 for 20 Km in Long Beach, beating Sweden's Roland Nilsson and Lenart Methner (1:34:35 and 1:36:13). Sue Brodock walked a 1:46:14 at the same site ahead of Monica Karlsson, Sweden, who had 1:49:25.

20 Years Ago (From the March 1986 ORW)-John Alfonso won a 60 Km race in New York City in 5:58:37, passing 50 Km in 4:58:39. . That was a short stroll indeed in the light of news "Flash" we lifted from the N.Y. Daily Mirror, May 31, 1942 edition: "If you think you're being abused because you are forced for one reason or another to walk more these days, get a load of Jim Hocking, the man who never once in his 85 has been nicknamed 'Hitch'. With the help of Ray Van Cleef, the Hotel New Yorker's rub-downer par excellence, we have some of Hocking's feats at hand. Hocking has walked a quarter of a million miles, without replacements. When he was a sprightly lad of 61, he walked from Times Square to the City Hall in Philadelphia, 97 miles, in 19:16. Seven years later, he strolled from New York to Chicago in 17 days 11 hours. It took him only 83 walking days the time he ankled from Coney Island to San Francisco. Sgt. John Walsh, when 61, did the same 3,684 miles in 85 days, didn't like San Francisco, did an about-face, and walked back. Made nice time

coming back: 91 days. Jim Ennis is another who contracted the same curious siege of vagabondia at Coney Island and immediately lit out for San Francisco. Last year, at the age of 84, Jocking walked from Yonkers to Poughkeepsie, 61 miles, in 13:40. On his 84th birthday, he legged it from old Teaneck, N.J., his home when not walking, and made it to Bear Mountain Inn, 55 miles away in 12 hours. Edward Payson Weston, at 75, walked from Minneapolis to New York, 1546 miles, in 60 days. So, what are you griping about: BOoy, call me acab."

15 Years Ago (From the March 1991 ORW)—Carl Schueler captured the U.S. 50 Km title for the sixth time in Long Beach. Carl's 4:11:03 put him better than 2 minutes ahead of Marco Evoniuk. Third in 4:15:13 was Eugene Kitts, on the far side of age 40. Paul Wick and Tim Lewis followed, both under 4:20, with Dan O'Connor, Herm Nelson, and Bob Briggs under 4:25 and Mark Manning just missing that time. . . In the U.S.—Great Britain Indoor track meet, Victoria Herazo edged Britain's Julie Drake in an exciting 3 Km. Victoria had 13:28.05 to Julie's 13:29.73/ Susan Liers was fourth. Doug Fournier completed a U.S. sweep of the racewalks, winning in 11:34.9, 9 seconds ahead of Britain's Mark Easton. Tim Seaman was fourth in 11:50.71. . . Fournier also won the Millrose Games Mile in 5:51.87, nearly 4 seconds ahead of Curtis Fisher, with Don Lawrence edging Seaman from third, both under 5:58.

10 Years Ago (From the March 1996 ORW)—Allen James and Michelle Rohl was USATF National Indoor titles, Allen with a 20:02.59 for 5 Km and Michelle with a record 12:55.90 for 3 Km. Gary Morgan was less than 4 seconds back of James in second, after surging into the lead with about 3 laps to go. Curt Clasuen was third in 20:18 and Tim Seaman fourth in 20:39. In the women's race, Rohl was by herself most of the way, but in was close behind her with Maryanne Tottrellas taking second in 13:09.35, Victoria Herazo third in 13:12.29 Debbi Lawrence fourth 13:12.71, and Sara Standley fifth in 13:15.24. . . In the German indoor championships, Axel Noack blitzed the 5 Km race in 18:37.70 and Beate Gummelt roared through a 11:53.03 for 3 Km.

5 Years Ago (From the March 2001 ORW)—National Indoor titles went to Michelle Rohl and Tim Seaman. Rohl had a meet record at 3 Km, winning in 12:28.32, 22 seconds ahead of Jill Zenner. Sara Stevenson was third. Seaman's 19:29.96 for 5 Km put him 14 seconds ahead of second-place Curt Clausen. Al Heppner was well back in third. . . University of Wisconsin-Parkside walkers dominated the NAIA walks. Lachlan Mc Donald won the men's 3 Km in 12:40.92, with teammates Steven Qui9rke and Mike Stanton in second and third. Amber Antonia won the women's race in 16:04.68 ahead of Emman Carter and teammate Nicole Olson. . . In the Russian Winter Championships, Olimpiada Ivanova won by nearly 3 minutes at 20 Km in 1:24:50, with four others under 1:30. The men's race went to Dmitriy Esipchuk in 1:18:05, one second ahead of Victor Buryaev. Two other went under 1:20. The men's 35 km was won by Alexey Voyevodin in 2:28:46 with Vladimir Potomin second in 1:29:03.



The top five at last month's National 50 Km. From left Theron Kissinger, Mark Green, Dave McGovern, Ray Sharp, and Philip Dunn. (Tim Jacobs photo.)