

## Ecuador Leads Way At Pan Am Cup Event

Balneario Camboriu, Brazil, April 21-22—With five races over the two days, honors at the Pan-Am Cup racewalking event were divided among five nations, but Ecuador took the lion's share. Led by Jefferson Perez, one of the all-time greats of the international racewalking scene, Ecuador took three individual and two team titles. Mexico had one of each, and the other three winners were El Salvador, Colombia, and the USA. The USA title came in the 50 Km team race, where persistence paid off. With Phil Dunn leading the way in fourth place, the U.S. finished all four team members, while no one else could finish even the three needed for a team score.

For Ecuador, Perez, who was uncertain after his second place in last year's World Championships if he would even be competing this year, won the Men's 20 Km as expected. Probably not expected was the country's dominance of the two Junior 10 Km races—individual and team titles in both the men's and women's events. Mexico had a team title in the women's 20 and individual title in the men's 50. El Salvador's Cristina Lopez won the women's 20 and Colombia took the team title in the men's 20.

Conditions were not conducive to fast times with temperatures in the mid-to-high 80s. But, by and large, the races were quite competitive and the athletes were content to start conservatively and finish strongly.

With Perez apparently content to win as easily as possible in the conditions, the men's 20 was a six-man race for most of the distance with no one willing to gamble on a fast pace in the hot conditions. The first 5 went in a leisurely 21:38, with Perez, Colombia's Jose Restrepo and Luis Lopez, and Mexico's Cristian Berdeja, Erick Guevera, and Eder Sanchez, together and well clear of the rest of the field. Holding that pace, the six were still together at 10 in 43:20. As the pace quickened a bit, Sanchez began to drop away, and trailed by 35 seconds as the other five went through 15 Km in 1:04:27. The other two Mexicans lost contact after about 17 Km. The two Colombians continued to stick with Perez and only after they passed 19 Km did Lopez find the pace too quick. Restrepo hung on to the finish, but yielded at the end, a second behind Perez's 1:25:08—a 20:41 for the final 5.

"It was a tough competition. Entering the final 300 meters, I didn't know if I would win. We prepare to compete under these conditions, and when we do succeed, it's really rewarding", Perez declared. Perez said he will skip the Pan-American Games that will take place in July in Rio to concentrate on the defense of his World title in Osaka. "Two tough races in such a short time will be hard to take for me", he said.

For the U.S., Kevin Eastler was pretty much by himself throughout the race as he finished seventh in 1:29:47, nearly 2 minutes ahead of the next walker. He walked a steady pace through 15 km, yielding 20 to 40 seconds to the leaders on each 5 km, but struggled through the final 5 in 23:39. Tim Seaman was 14th in 1:38:31 and Allen James 16th in 1:46:51. James, the team manager and coach, was added to the roster when John Nunn was

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unable to get his passport renewed in time. Matt Boyles walked a solid race, hanging close to Eastler through 15 Km (1:06:53), but got his third red card between 17 and 18 km.

In the women's 20, Lopez walked a very even pace throughout and pulled away from Ecuador's Miriam Ramon in the final stages for a well-earned win in 1:39:21. For the first 5 Km, these two were accompanied by Veronica Colindres of El Salvador, Rosario Guerrero of Mexico, and Cisiane Lopes of Brazil. They reached 5 in 24:45. On the next five Guerrero and Lopes lost ground and the other three were together in 49:22. By 15, Lopez and Ramon were alone in 1:14:17, with the others now more than a minute behind. Finally, Ramon also had to yield and Lopez went on to a 21 second win. Ecuador's Yadire Guaman came from well back over the final 5 Km to take the bronze.

The 24-year-old Lopez, the defender, was out of action for a while with a sciatic nerve problem. She is now gaining competitive form, but said she wasn't expecting a victory.

The U.S. team was hurt when Teresa Vaill decided not to make the trip. Samantha Cohen finished 13th and 14th and Maria Michta struggled the second half of the race in finishing 20th. Loretta Schuellein had to drop out early.

The 50 went to Mexico's Alvaro Garcia, 23, after a race-long battle with Colombia's Freddy Hernandez. The early leader, however, was El Salvador's Ricardo Reyes who went through 10 Km in 49:14 and 20 in 1:38:57. At 10, Garcia and Hernandez had 50:46, 4 seconds behind Brazil's Claudio dos Santos. By 20, dos Santos had faded and Fausto Quinde of Ecuador had joined Garcia and Hernandez, with Garcia at 1:39:43 and the other two 1:39:47, still nearly a minute behind Reyes.

This trio quickened the pace to sub-49 and by 30 Km, it was a three-man race—Quinde 2:28:21, Garcia 2:28:24, and Hernandez 2:28:35. Reyes was now nearly a minute back and the rest of the field was stringing out, two and more minutes further back. Garcia made his move on the next 10, doing a 47:56 to go through 40 in 3:16:20, leaving Hernandez 39 seconds back. Quinde was another 19 seconds behind.

Garcia stretched his lead to 54 seconds by 43 Km, but Hernandez did not given up. Over the next 2 Km, he closed the gap to 31 seconds and then caught Garcia at 47 Km. He stayed there for another kilometer, but when Garcia accelerated to a 4:43 Km, Hernandez had no answer and trailed by 24 seconds at the finish. Quinde held on for third, nearly 5 minutes back, but nearly 5 ahead of a charging Philip Dunn.

Philip, in a well-paced effort, came from eighth at 30 Km. The 47-year-old Ray Sharp stayed with Dunn through 20 Km (1:42:16), but struggled from there to finish ninth in 4:33:00. The last 10 was a real effort for him, taking 62:07. The semi-retired Curt Clausen, nearing his 40th birthday, was eleventh in 4:40:27. Mark "ever"-Green, now 51, completed the U.S. winning team effort with a 4:45:07 in fourteenth.

The Junior women's 10 Km was a five-girl race for the first 5 Km. At that point Colombia's Ingrid Hernandez led in 25:52 followed closely by Ecuador's Janeth Guaman, Colombia's Leslie Guavita, USA's Lauren Forgues, and Ecuador's Gabriela Cornejo, all in 25:57. Hernandez then applied the pressure with kilometers in under 5 minutes and by 8 Km had a sizeable lead with a time of 40:48. Guaman was next in 41:19, with Forgues and Guavita battling for third at 41:34. Cornejo had dropped completely away, coming through in

48:39, but still a solid fifth.

The spurt told on Hernandez as she slowed to a 5:17 on the ninth kilometer, but she still seemed in command with a 22 second lead on Guaman, who in turn was 19 seconds ahead of Guavita and Forgues. But, Hernandez was finished and when she struggled through a 6:20 on her final kilometer she faded to a distant fourth. Guavita was the quickest on the last lap, but not quick enough to catch Guaman, who accelerated enough herself to hold onto an 8 second lead at the finish, crossing the line in 51:24. Forgues tried to hang on to Guavita, but slowly dropped away to finish just 7 seconds further back with a bronze medal. Le'erin Voss finished in eighth for the U.S. while Christina Peters was disqualified sometime after the 8 Km mark. In the team battle Ecuador (first and fifth) and Colombia (second and fourth) were tied at 6 points, but the nod went to Ecuador off Guaman's first place finish. The U.S. was third with 11.

The junior men's 10 Km saw eight walkers together in 22:17 at the halfway point. On the seventh kilometer, Mauricio Arteaga of Ecuador stepped up the pace with a 4:18 and the field began to break up. Only Panama's Yassir Carrera, Ecuador's Ricardo Lojan, and El Salvador's Victor Mendoza were still with him. At 8 Km, Mendoza led Arteaga by a second with Carreara 5 seconds back. With 1 kilometer to go, Arteaga led Mendoza by two seconds with Carrera 14 seconds back and the rest of the field fading fast.

The pace proved too quick for Mendoza to maintain a legal style and he got his third red card. Arteaga blitzed the final kilometer in 4:06 to come home in 43:49, 20 seconds ahead of Carrera. Brazil's Djaime de Oliveira came from seventh at 8 km to cop the bronze, just 8 seconds in back of Carrera. Lojan was also disqualified near the finish. For the U.S., the Vergara twins were below par from the start and finished in fifteenth and sixteenth, well off their bests.

All of the results:

**Women's 20 Km**—1. Cristina Esmeralda Lopez, El Salvador 1:39:21 924:45, 49:23, 1:14:17) 2. Miriam Ramon, Ecuador 1:39:42 (24:45, 49:23, 1:14:39) 3. Yadira Guaman, Ecuador 1:41:08 (25:24, 50:48, 1:16:21) 4. Veronica Colindres, El Salvador 1:41:29 (24:45, 49:22, 1:15:22) 5. Rosario Sanchez, Mexico 1:42:16 (24:54, 50:11, 1:15:49) 6. Cisiane Lopes, Brazil 1:42:20 (24:59, 50:24, 1:16:21) 7. Esther Sanches, Mexico 1:43:13 8. Leydi Villamarin Luz, Colombia 1:43:29 9. Daisy Gonzales, Mexico 1:43:29 10. Rachel Lavalee, Canada 1:44:17 11. Tania Spindler, Brazil 1:45:43 12. Sam Cohen, USA 1:45:53 (26:14, 52:15, 1:18:56) 13. Jolene Moore, USA 1:47:48 (26:13, 53:05, 1:20:37) 14. Marlen Larrota, Colombia 1:48:15 15. Marina Crivello 1:49:38 16. Claudia Ortega, Mexico 1:49:42 17. Johanna Ordonez, Ecuador 1:49:28 18. Marcela Pacheco, Chile 1:50:13 19. Erica Rocha de Sena, Brazil 1:50:47 20. Maria Michta, USA 1:53:55 (26:24, 50:25, 1:23:18) 21. Elianay da Silva Pereira, Brazil 1:56:21 22. Josette Sepulveda, Chile 1:59:04 DQ—Sandra Zapata, Colombia and Ocio Delgadillo, Mexico DNF—Alessandra Picagevicz, Brazil, Johana Malla, Ecuador, and Loretta Schuellein, USA (28:12, then out after 8 Km) Teams: 1. Mexico 21 2. Ecuador 22 3. Brazil 35 4. USA 45

**Men's 20 Km**—1. Jefferson Perez, Ecuador 1:25:08 (21:38, 43:20, 64:27) 2. Jose Gustavo Restrepo, Colombia 1:25:09 (21:38, 43:20, 64:27) 3. Luis Fernando Lopez, Col. 1:25:25 (21:28, 43:20, 64:27) 4. Cristhian, Mexico 1:26:07 (21:38, 43:20, 54:17) 5. Erick Guevera, Mexico 1:26:47 (21:41, 43:20, 64:27) 6. Eder Sanchez, Mexico (21:41, 43:20, 56:02) 7. Kevin Eastler, USA 1:29:47 (22:04, 44:00, 66:08) 8. James Rendon, Col. 1:32:35 9. Rafael Duarte, Brazil 1:33:58 9. Patricio, Ecuador 1:34:56 10. Patricio Ortega, Ecuador 1:34:56 11. Chihuan Pavel, Peru 1:35:2 12. Juan Manuel Cano, Argentina 1:35:40 13. Daniel Garcia, Mex. 1:36:10 14. Tim Seaman, USA 1:38:31 (22:04, 45:20, 70:09) 15. Gonzles Benito, Qarg. 1:46:48 16. Allen James, USA 1:46:51 (24:37, 50:17, 1:18:15) 17. Sidinei Rodritues, Brazil 1:48:11



DQ—Andres Chcho, Ecuador and Matt Boyles, USA (22:04, 44:30, 66:53) DNF—Jose Alessandro Bagio, Brazil, Sergio Galdino, Brazil, Omar Segura, Mex., and Vidal Delgado, Paraguay Teams—1. Colombia 13 2. Mexico 23 3. USA 37

**Men's 50 Km**—1. Alvaro Garcia, Mexico 4:04:52 (50:46, 1:39:43, 2:28:24, 3:16:20) 2. Freddy Hernandez, Colombia 4:05:16 (50:46, 1:39:47, 2:28:25, 3:16:59) 3. Fausto Quinde, Ecuador 4:10:08 (51:16, 1:39:47, 2:28:21, 3:17:18) 4. Philip Dunn, USA 4:14:58 (51:18, 1:42:16, 2:33:07, 3:23:25) 5. Rodrigo Moreno, Colombia 4:18:28 6. Ricardo Reyes, El Salvador 4:18:45 7. David Lopez, Mex. 4:20:23 8. Claudio dos Santos, Brazil 4:26:39 9. Ray Sharp, USA 4:33:00 (51:16, 1:42:16, 2:36:48, 3:30:53) 10. Alex, Jara, Chile 4:37:09 11. Curt Clausen, USA 4:40:27 (51:20, 1:43:21, 2:41:01, 3:41+) 12. Edwin Centeno, Peru 4:44:48 13. Mark Green, USA 4:45:07 (55:33, 1:51:21, 2:47:58, 3:46+) 14. Wellington da Silva Souza, Brazil 4:48:08 DQ—David Guevera, Ecuador and Joege Segura Rivera, Mex DNF—Mario dos Santos, Bfrazil, Claudio Vargas, Mex. Bernardo Segura, Mex., and Segundo Penafeil, Ecuador Teams—1. USA 37

**Jr. Women's 10 Km**—1. Janeth Guaman, Ecuador 51:24 2. Leslie Guavita, Colombia 51:32 3. Lauren Forgues, USA 51:39 4. Ingrid Hernandez, Col. 52:25 5. Gavriela Cornejo, Ecuador 54:23 6. Cirila Cume, Ecuador 55:35 6. Mayara Luize Vixentainer, Brazil 55:32 8. Le'erin Voss, USA 55:58 9. Pamele da Silva, Brazil 56:35 10. Vanessa dos Santos, Brazil 56:38 11. Aline Sausen, Brazil 57:56 12. Wilane Cuebas, Ouerto Rico 61:29 DQ—Christina Peters, USA and Lilane Barbosa, Brazil Teams: 1. Ecuador 6 2. Colombis 6 3. USA 11 4. Brazil 16

**Jr. Men's 10 Km**—1. Mauricio Arteaga, Ecuador 43:49 2. Yassir Carrera, Panama 44:19 3. Djaime de Oliveira, Brazil 44:27 4. Emerson Hernandez, El Salvador 44:30 5. Claudio Villanueva, Ecuador 44:41 6. Omar Sierra, Col. 45:13 7. Jorge Ruiz, Col. 45:14 7. Jorge Ruiz, Col. 45:40 8. Caio de Sena Bofnin, Brazil 43:40 9. Camilo Acura, Chile 46:00 10. Felipe Toloza, Chile 48:19 11. Rudney Nogueira, Brazil 49:41 12. Alexandre Gagne, Canada 49:56 13. Tiago Fonseca, Brazil 50:48 14. Ricardo Vergara, USA 51:49 14. Roberto Vergara, USA 52:24 16. Ronal Quispe, Bolivia 54:13 DQ—Ricardo Lojan, Ecuador and Victor Mendoza, El Salvador DNF—Pedro Severa, Brazil Teams—1. Ecuador 6 2. Brazil 11 3. Colombia 13 4. Chile 19 5. USA 29

## Turava, Brugnetti Winners At Third Leg Of IAAF Challenge

Rio Maior, Portugal, April 14 (by Antonio Manuel Fernandes for the IAAF, with additions by your editor)—Ryta Turava, 26, Belarus, and Ivano Brugnetti, 30, Italy, came home winners over 20 Km at the 16th edition of the Grande Premio Internacional en Marcha Atletica today. The annual race was the third leg of the 2007 IAAF Racewalking Challenge. Considering the heat and strong wind that prevailed, the winning times of the pair, 1:20:21 and 1:28:01, were high class. Turava's time was the fastest in the world so far this year.

There was disappointment for the home fans though as Susana Feitor, the 2005 World Championships bronze medalist, faltered after a good start and could finish no better than seventh in the women's race.

Brugnetti, the 2004 Olympic 20 Km champion, who had a low key opening to his 2007 Challenge campaign with a 1:25:46 for a distant 26th place in China on March 24, took the victory today by almost a half minute over another 30-year old, Australia's Luke Adams, who had been fifth in China. The winner, who became a father a month ago, is once again "Focused on sporting goals".

"After two years without great results, this performance gave me more motivation to

think about Osaka (World Championships in August). But, first, I compete in Italy, in Sesto San Giovanni on May 1 (the next fixture of the Challenge)", confirmed the Italian.

Adams was the only one to challenge the Italian as they went through the first 5 Km together 19:41, 40 seconds ahead of a pack of five others. But the Aussie had to give up the chase soon after and by 10 Km, which he reached in 39:43, Brugnetti was 19 seconds clear. Adams had another 33 seconds on third place. Brugnetti was not able to hold that pace in the conditions, but continued to move gradually away to his 29 second win.

After Adams, came Norway's Erik Tysse, who closed ground over the final stages to finish in 1:20:56. This was his season opener and his third fastest time ever.

In the women's race, Feitor was in front in the first few laps, but Turava, the European Champion and World Cup titleholder, who won here two years ago, was very strong today in her seasonal debut. She chose to start at an easy pace (for her) and at 5 Km in 22:35, she was accompanied by Feitor, Norway's Kjersti Platzer, Germany's Melanie Seeger, and Romania's Claudia Stef. But when she accelerated to cover the second 5 in 22 flat, she opened 23 seconds on Platzer, Seeger, and Feitor, with Stef another 9 seconds back. Covering the second half in 43:26, Turava continued to lengthen her lead, although Platzer was also moving much quicker the second half to finish in 1:28:54, nearly 40 seconds ahead of Seeger. Germany's Sabine Zimmer, Italy's Elisa Rigaud, and Australia's Jane Saville were also able to accelerate over the second half to take the next three spots ahead of Feitor and Stef.

Platzer, who won the opening leg of the Challenge in Mexico, walked much faster today, but was no match for Turava. Seeger was the defending champion, but had to settle for third on this day.

"This was my first competition of the year and I didn't know how good I was", confirmed Turava. "Besides, this was a very hard race because of the hot and windy day, and I'm pleased to have achieved this time. My goals for now are my presence in Sesto San Giovanni and I'm also looking forward to Osaka." Results:

**Women**—1. Ryta Turava, Belarus 1:28:01 (22:35, 44:35) 2. Kjersti Platzer, Norway 1:28:54 (22:35, 44:58) 3. Melanie Seeger, Germany 1:29:32 (22:35, 44:58) 4. Sabine Zimmer, Germany 1:30:13 (22:48, 45:07) 5. Elisa Rigaud, Italy 1:30:42 (23:01, 45:46) 6. Jane Saville, Australia 1:30:51 (23:01, 45:50) 7. Sasana Feitor, Portugal 1:31:15 (22:35, 44:56) 8. Claudia Stef, Romania 1:31:53 (22:36, 45:07) 9. Aba Cabincinha, Port. 1:32:46 (23:01, 45:56) 10. Sonata Milusauskayte, Lithuania 1:32:48 (23:02, 45:54) 11. Ines Henriques, Port. 1:34:09 12. Olive Laughnane, Ireland 1:36:45 13. Vera Santos, Port. 1:38:10 14. Sofia Avoila, Port. 1:43:51 15. Rahma Mahmoudi, Tunisia 1:44:36 16. Fatima Rodrigues, Port. 1:46:28 17. Chaima Trabelsi, Tunisia 1:47:04 18. Lidia Pereira, Port. 1:54:41 (2 DQ, 6 DNF)

**Men**—1. Ivano Brugnetti, Italy 1:20:21 (19:41, 39:43) 2. Luke Adams, Australia 1:20:50 (19:51, 40:02) 3. Erik Tysse, Norway 1:20:56 (20:22, 40:36) 3. Andre Hohne, Germany 1:21:04 (20:22, 40:35) 5. Benjamin Sanchez, Spain 1:21:21 (20:23, 40:48) 6. Ausutyn Rafal, Poland 1:22:49 (20:31, 41:13) 7. Jose Antonio Gonzalez, Spain 1:23:23 8. Hatem Ghoul, Tunisia 1:24:08 9. Joao Vieira, Port. 1:24:46 10. Hassanine Sbaj, Tnisia 1:24:48 11. Francisco Aller, Spain 1:25:00 12. Jose Cambil, Spain 1:25:18 13. Jared Tallent, Australia 1:25:18 14. Jose Bagio, Brazil 1:25:30 15. Austo Cardoso, Port. 1:26:22 16. Antonio Pereira, Port. 1:26:52 17. Diogo Martins, Port. 1:27:43 18. Dionisio Ventura, Port. 1:27:45 19. Mario Contreiras, Port. 1:30:21 20. Karim Boudhiba, Tunisia 1:32:34 21. Luis Gil-Martino, Port. 1:33:31 22. Dominic King, Great Britain 1:35:57 23. Jose Sahcnes, Spain 1:36:15 24. Pedro Isidra, Port. 1:39:07 25. Jaime Santos, Port. 1:45:30 (2 DQ, 7 DNF)



## Other Results

**10 Km, New ork City, April 15**—1. Alexis Davidson (51) 59:19 2. Bruce Logan 62:38 3. David Lee (52) 67:01 4. Elton Richardson (68) 67:31 5. Lynne Conant (56) 76:27 6. Cervin Robinson (75) 82:30 **5 Km, same place**—1. Annine Stanley 28:19 2. Sara Groat (19) 29:52 3. Amy Cha (15) 33:12 4. (5 finishers) **5 KM, WII Twp., N.J., April 15**—(Scheduled as a 10 Km, but havy rain, biting cold, and high winds made 5 quite enough) 1. John Soucheck 25:25 2. John Fredericks 20:07 3. Tom Quattrocchi 30:26 **Women**—1. Maria Paul 35:35 **1500 meters, Boynton Beach, Fla., March 17**—1. William Lane (55+) 7:57 2. Bob Fine (75+) 9:45 3. Peter Bayer (65+) 9:49 (6 finishers) **3 Km, same place**—1. Peter Bayer 18:59 2. Bob Fine 20:12 (6 finishers) **5 Km, Cedarville, Ohio, March 31**—1. Matt Boyles, Miami Valley TC 20:28.25 2. Chris Diaz, Mlone U. 25:25.80 3. Doug Johnson, Kentucky Racers 25:37 4. Brad Sinick, Malone 26:33 5. Joe Carmony, Malone 26:34 6. Seth Campbell, Cedarville U. 26:58 7. Chris Schmid, un. 28:37 8. Patrick Shaffer, Mount Vernon, Ohio H.S. 29:26 9. Josh Monternaro, Tiffin U. 30:11 10. Jerry Muskal, Maimi Valley TC 32:45 11. Jack Shuter, Buckeye Striders 39:25 **Women's 3 Km, same place**—1. Jill Cobb 14:49.45 (First race in 5 years, so this is a promising start for the former international if she is planning a comeback to serious racing.) 2. Amanda Johnson, Lindsey Wilson U. 16:34 3. Sarah Peak, Cedarville 17:25 4. Marria Mudd, Walsh Col. 18:26 5. Vicke Tomasic, Walsh 18:48 6. Brittani Lyons, Malone 19:09 7. Lacey Watkins, Malone 20:57 **3 Km, Goshen, Ind., March 31**—1. Christina Peters, Goshen Col. 15:11 2. Kate Malinowski, Cornerstone Baptist 20:40 **5 Km, Mo. Valley Championships, April 6**—1. Patrick Stroupe, Central Methodist 21:45.19 2. Chris Tegmeier, Concordia Col. 23:04.56 4. Thiago Ferreira, Mo. Valley 25:35 4. Jo:n Ripke, Concordia 25:56 5. Nate Dreher, Concordia 16:00 6. Tom Stolee, Concordia 26:32 7. Geoff Karhoff, Central Meth. 26:36 8. Kevin Conrey, Mo. Valley 17:11 9. Chris Dehning, Concordia 28:36 **North American/Central American/Caribbean Masters 15 KM, Surprise, Ariz., April 22**—1. Heidi Hauk (47) 1:39.1 2. Kathy Frable (61) 1:43.1 (Note: This is the way the times are listed. So I am no more certain than you what the 1 might mean after hours and minutes) 3. Daine Brandt (59) 1:44.0 4. Ellie Kallal (63) 1:46.1 5. Darlene Backlund (61) 1:51.2 6. Susan Lichtsinn (51) 1:56.1 7. Claire Elkins (76) 2:15.3 **Men**—1. Norm Frable (61) 1:28.5 2. Zedineck Gonsiolovsky (65) 1:37.4 3. Paul Johnson (69) 1:38.2 4. Michael Madigan (52) 1:39.5 5. John Backlund (67) 1:40.1 6. Jack Starr (78) 1:43.12.1 7. Jim Troch (58) 1:53.1 8. Bernie Finch (67) 1:56.1 9. Cliff Elkins (75) 2:04.1 **10 Km, Walnut Cal. (Mt. SAC Relays), April 1**—1. Pedro Santoni (49) 55:33 2. Bob Nyman (68) 66:15 3. Bill Moremen (79) 69:37 (6 finishers) **5 Km, same place**—1. Rick Campbell (61) 28:51 2. Alex Kaxaryan (52) 29:45 3. Mario Lopez (49) 30:11 4. Ray Billig (50) 32:05 5. Jim Olson (44) 33:00 6. Carl Acosta (73) 33:06 (10 finishers) **Women**—1. Donna Cunningham (60) 30:13 2. Sulvia Ellis (59) 30:33 3. Susan Harris (45) 31:38 4. Janet Robinson (65) 31:51 5. Carol Bertino (59) 31:11 (10 finishers) **3 Km, Kentfield, Cal., March 24**—1. Kevin Killingsworth 15:45.44 2. Jack Bray 17:16.32 (6 finishers) **5 Km, same place**—1. Desmone Canning 32:45 2. Doris Cassels 32:58 3. Shirley Dockstader 33:31 4. Ann Lee 34:34 **1 Hour, Kentfield, April 1**—1. Joe Berendt 10,117 meters 2. Jack Bray 9823 3. Jim Beckett 9823 4. Nicki Goldman 9246 5. Lou Walters 9159 6. Ron Walkers 9013 7. Pete Corona 8750 8. Shirley Dockstader and Anne Lee 8735 10. Joe Anderson 84:05 (21 finishers) **2.8 Miles, Seattle, March 10**—1. Karl Johansen (60) 25:25 2. Bob Novak (57) 26:01 3. Stan Chraminski (59) 26:10 4. Bart Kale (50) 26:31 5. Ann Tuberg (47) 27:20 (8 finishers) B10 Km, Oregon, March 3—1. George Opsahl (65) 59:48 **Women**—Carmen Jacinsky (43) 62:47 **Pacific Northwest 10 Km, Seattle, Wash., April 14**—1. Inaki Gomez (19), Canada 46:00.9 2. Evan Dunfee (16), Can. 47:18.2 3. Gerry Dragomir (55), Canada 52:56.2 4. Tommy Aunum (48) 56:41 5. Karl Johnasen (60)

57:39 6. Bob Novak (57) 57:44 7. George Opsahl (65) 59:59 8. Louis Landre (47) 63:25 9. John Backlund (67) 63:51 10. Richard Zerbe (68) 68:08 11. Bart Kale (50) 69:01 12. Ron MacPike (74) 70:16 13. William Bruner (62) 70:47 14. Dick Vaughn (76) 72:33 **Women**—1. Stepahnie Casey 52:34.6 (Unfamiliar name, Age 23. A promising newcomer? We need some of these.) 2. Mary Snyder (56) 60:25.3 3. Ann Tuberg (47) 60:46.1 4. Corinne Beauchet (59) 69:03 5. Dora Choi (412) 69:59 6. Darlene Backlund (61) 70:28 (8 finishers) **20 Km, Tuusula, Finland, April 21**—1. Antti Kempas 1:25:29 2. Jarkko Kinnunen 1:27:04 3. Heikki Kukkonen (20) 1:31:26 **Women**—1. Jaana Eskelinen 1:46:00 **Latvian 20 Km, March 31**—1. Ingus Janevics 1:25:30 2. Arnis Rumbenieks 1:27:00 3. Igors Kazakevics 1:31:10 (Interesting how closely those times match those in the Finnish race.) **Women's 10 Km, same place**—1. Jolanta Dukure 48:43 2. Modra Ignate 49:17 3. Agnese Pastare 49:51 **Asian Racewalking Championships, Neagari, Japan March 26: Men's 20 Km**—1. Takayuke Tanii, Japan 1:21:09 2. Konicki Marioka, Japan 1:21:30 3. Akihiro Sugimoto, Japan 1:23:17 4. Masato Hoshihara Japan 1:23:57 5. Isamu Fujisawa, Japan 1:23:33 6. Yusuke Suzuki, Japan 1:25:48 7. Yuki Matagawa, Japan 1:26:23 8. Shin Il-Yong, Korea 1:26:50 **Women's 20 Km**—1. Maymi Kawasaki, Japan 1:28:57 2. Sachiko Konishi, Japan 1:33:05 3. Dim Me-Jung, Korea 1:34:54 4. Kumi Ootoshi, Japan 1:35:04 5. Naomi Hakamada, Japan 1:35:42 **3 Km, Spain, April 21**—1. Sonata Miluskauskaitė 13:07.41 2. Marisa Perez Belloch 13:42.11 3. Teresa de Jesus Linares 14:44 (8 finishers)

## For Your Late Spring-Early Summer Racewalking Pleasure

Sat. May 5	3 and 5 Km, Sioux Falls, S.D. (BB) Florida 8 Km, Coconut Creek (N) 2.8 Miles, Seattle (C)
Sat. May 5	2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C)
Sun. May 6	5 Km, Kentfield, Cal. 8 am (P) 10 Km, Albuquerque, N.M. (T) North Region 20 Km, Jack Mortland 5, 10, and 20 Km, Dayton, Ohio (M) 5 Mile, Carson, Col. (H) 10 Km, Ft. Collins, Col. (H)
Fri. May 11	3 Km Women, 5 Km Men, Cedarville, Ohio (M) Women's 3 Km, Men's 5 Km, Concordia U., Nebraska (K)
Sat. May 12	Hayward Classic 5 Km, Eugene, Ore. (C) Minnesota 20 Km (also 5 and 10), Minneapolis (I)
Sun. May 13	5 Km, Eugene, Oregon (C) 5 Km, Albuquerque, NM (T)
Sun. May 20	National Masters and West Regional 15 Km, Riverside, Cal., 7:30 am (Y) 5, 10, and 20 Km, Point Pleasant, N.J. (A) 5, 10, and 20 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (F) Met 15 Km and Empire State 10 Km Trial, New York City, 8:30 am (G) 5 Km, Thornton, Col., 4 pm (H) 5 and 10 Km Albuquerque, N.M. (T)
Sat. May 26	South Region 10 Km, Pharr, Texas (O)
Sun. May 27	Alongi in Marin 5 Km, Kentfield, Cal. (P) Pacific Assn. 5 Km, San Mateo, Cal. (J) Sanford Kalb 9 Mile, Lakewood, N.J. (A) 5, 10, and 20 Km, Toronto (Q) <b>USATF National Masters 15 Km, Riverside, Cal. (Q)</b> 10 Km, Boulder, Col., 8 am (H)
Mon., May 28	



Sun. June 3 Pacific Assn 1 Mile, Stockton, Cal. (J)  
 Sat. June 9 3 and 5 Km, Sante Fe, N.M. (T)  
 2.8 Miles, Seattle (C)  
 1 Mile, Holmdel, N.J. (A)  
 Florida 10 Km, Clermont (N)  
 Indiana 3 Km, Indianapolis (CC)  
 Sun. June 10 10 Km Kentfield, Cal. (P)  
 Ohio 10 Km Yellow Springs (M)  
 10 and 20 Km, Kenosha, Wis. (F)  
 10 and 20 Km, Eugene, Ore (E)  
 Sat. June 16 5 Km, New York City, 8:am (G)  
 Sun. June 17 Met. 20 Km and 10 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)  
 Mon. June 18 New England 3 Km, Cambridge, Mass.(X)  
 Sat. June 23 **National USATF Men's 20 Km, Indianapolis, 6:30 am D)**  
**National USATF Jr. Men's 10 Km, Indianapolis, 8:30 am (D)**  
 Sun. June 24 5 and 10 Km, Pasadena (R)  
**National USATF Women's 20 Km, Indianapolis, 6:30 am (D)**  
**National USATF Jr. Women's 10 Km, Indianapolis, 8:45 am (D)**  
 5 and 10 Km Albuquerque, N.M. (T)  
 Mon. June 25 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:45 pm (A)  
 Tue. June 26 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J. (A)  
 Wed. Jun. 27 1600 meters, Van Nuys, Cal. (Z)  
 Sun. July 1 Pac. Assn. 5 Km, San Mateo, Cal. (J)  
 Sat. July 7 2.8 Miles, Seattle (C)  
 N.J. 5 Km, West Long Branch (A)  
 USATF National Club Championships 5 Km, New York City (D)  
 Mon. July 9 5 Km, Lang Branch, N.J., 6:45 pm (A)  
 Tue. July 10 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J. 6:30 pm (A)  
 Wed. July 11 1600 meters, Van Nuys, Cal. (Z)  
 Sat. July 14 Masters 10 Km, Seattle (C)  
 Bay State Games 3 Km, Cambridge, Mass. (X)  
 Minn. 10 Km, Minneapolis (V)  
 North Region 10 Km, Indianapolis (AA)  
 Sun. July 15 5 and 10 Km, Albuquerque, N.M. (T)  
 Mon. July 16 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:45 pm (A)  
 Tues. July 17 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J., 6:30 pm (A)  
 Wed. July 18 1600 meters, Van Nuys, Cal. (Z)  
 Thur. July 19 1500 and 3000 meters, Yellow Springs, Ohio (M)  
 Sun. July 20 Pac. Assn 3 Km, Reno, Nev. (J)  
 Mon. July 21 New England 5 Km, Springfield, Mass. (T)

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## From Heel To Toe

Sorry. I used up all the space before I put anything in here.

## LOOKING BACK

**45 Years Ago** (From the April 1962 Race Walker published by Chris McCarthy)—John Allen won the National 40 Km in Buffalo in 3:30:22, beating Ron Laird by more than 12 minutes. Laird was just 3 seconds ahead of Bob Mimm, with Ron Daniel, Carl Kurr, and Jack Blackburn taking the next three spots, just 2 to 2 ½ minutes behind Mimm. . . The Penn AC 12 miler went to Ron Zinn in a course record 1:33:31 with Jack Mortland 1:23 back in second. Ron Laird (1:36:02) and Bob Mimm (1:37:00) followed. . . In discussing the World Lists for 1961, McCarthy noted he would like to talk to Rein Leius of the USSR and ask him how it feels to turn in a 4:44:05 50 Km and finish in 55th place in a national. There was some depth in that land even 45 years ago.

**40 Years Ago** (From the April 1967 ORW)—On the West Coast, Don DeNoon took the measure of Ron Laird by 22 minutes, winning a 30 Km race in 2:30:00. Then Laird turned the tables at 20 Km, winning by just 1 second in 1:33:23. . . The Ohio 20 Km went to Jack Mortland in a leisurely 1:41:13.

**35 Years Ago** (From the April 1972 ORW)—The National 25 Km title was won by Larry Young in 1:57:28 following a race-long duel with Goetz Klopfer. Goetz hung tough until the final mile and finished a half-minute back, only to find that he had the old DQ. So second went to Bill Ranney in 2:03:13 with Todd Scully third. The race was held in Seattle. . . The annual 50-miler in New Jersey went to Shaul Ladany in 7:23:10, with Bill Walker a half-hour behind. Shaul went through the 50 Km mark in 4:30:36. . . Young added the National 20 Km



title to his laurels on Long Island in 1:32:43. Ron Daniel was second in 1:34:10, followed by Floyd Godwin, John Knifton, Jerry Brown, and Todd Scully. Your editor decided that Long Island didn't like him as he received the second DQ of his career, the first having come 12 years earlier in the National 10 Km on Long Island. . In East Germany, Karl-Heinz Stadtmeuller bettered the world record for 30 Km with a 2:14:16 on the track.

**30 Years Ago** (From the April 1977 ORW)—Wayne Glusker and Dave Himmelberger shared the National 35 Km title, finishing in 3:03:50 in Palo Alto. Bryan Snazelle was just 40 seconds back. . Shaul Ladany continued his domination of the ultras, winning the National 75 Km title in a record 7:04:48 (4:35:44 at 50). Martin Kraft was second in 7:27:15, Alan Price third, and Gerry Bocci fourth. . In Turku, Finland, Reima Salonen did an indoor 3 Km in 11:05.1, passing 1 mile in 5:53.2

**25 Years Ago** (From the April 1982 ORW)—Marco Evoniuk left Jim Heiring after 17 miles and went on to a decisive win in the National 35 Km. His 2:48:08 left Heiring nearly 3 minutes back. Ray Sharp was just under 3 hours in third. . Ralf Kowalsky had a world record of 2:06:54 for 30 Km in East Germany.

**20 Years Ago** (From the April 1987 ORW)—Tim Lewis and Debbi Lawrence emerged victorious in the DC Invitational walks. Lewis had 1:27:16 for 20 Km, 38 seconds ahead of Carl Schueler. Ray Sharp had 1:29:24 and Mike Stauch and Steve Pecinovsky 1:29:59. Dave McGovern was just 3 seconds over the 1:30 mark. Lawrence was convincing as her 47:33 put her 63 seconds ahead of Lynn Weik, with Maryanne Torrellas third in 48:56 in the 10. The Vaill sisters, Teresa and Lisa also broke 50 minutes.

**15 Years Ago** (From the April 1992 ORW)—Carl Schueler and Marco Evoniuk both qualified for their fourth Olympic team at the 50 Km trial in New Orleans. Joining them was Herm Nelwon who gutted it out in second place for a 4:04:38, just under the qualifying standard of 4:05. Evoniuk, in third (4:09:44) already had met the standard. Schueler won the race in 4:02:10, after going through 25 Km in 1:56:57, which proved a bit quick on the day, but he was never in danger of losing the race. Following the first three were Andrzej Chylinski (4:11:53) Jonathan Matthews (4:12:28), and Dan O'Connor (4:13:53). . At the National Invitational in Washington, D.C., Canada's Janice McCaffrey edged Teresa Vaill in the 10 Km, 45:07 to 45:16. Lynn Weik (45:38) and Maryanne Torrellas (48:06) followed. Tim Lewis won another title at 20 Km in 1:28:47, 25 seconds ahead of Ian Whatley. Dave McGovern led a closely bunched pack for third in 1:29:31, as five more (Ray Funkhouser, Mark Manning, Steve Pecinovsky, Carl Schueler, and Marc Varsano) came in under 1:30. . Alan James passed on the D.C. race, but a week earlier blasted a 1:25:01 in Long Beach. Dave Marchese followed in 1:28:56. . A competitive 20 Km in Monterey, Mexico saw Czedh Igor Kollar winning in 1:22:57, with sit others at 1:24 or better. Another Czech, Roman Mrazek was second, followed by Russia's Mikhail Schennikov, Ernesto Canto, Italy's Walter Arena, Joel Sanchez, and Daniel Garcia. . In a show of strength, Spain had five walkers under 3:50 in their National 50, won by Jaime Barroso in 3:48:08.

**10 Years Ago** (From the April 1997 ORW)—Russia dominated the World Cup races held in the Czech Republic, taking both men's and women's titles. They finished one-two in the women's 10 Km race with Irina Stankina finishing in 41:52 and Olimpiada Ivanova in 41:59. China's Yan Gu was third in 42:15, with Erica Alfridi of Italy fourth. Italy, China, and Belarus followed the Russians in the team standings. The U.S. finished 14th of the 31 teams,

led by Victoria Herazo's 46:31 in 50th place. The men's 20 went to Olympic Champion Jefferson Perez, Ecuador, in 1:18:24, just 3 seconds ahead of Mexico's Daniel Garcia, who led Russia's Ilya Markov by just 3 seconds. Curst Clausen led the U.S. contingent with a 1:24:41 in 60th. At 50, Spain's Jesus Garcia won in 3:39:54, 18 seconds ahead of Oleg Ishutkin, Rusia. Finland's Valentin Kononen and Russia's Nikolay Matyukhin were third and fourth. Andrzej Chylinski was the top U.S. finisher with a 4:07:15 in 44th place. In the team standings, Russia finished well ahead of Mexico and Belarus. The U.S. was 16th among the 44 teams competing.

**5 Years Ago** (From the April. 2002 ORW)—Matt Boyles made his first 20 Km race a memorable one as he won the annual Jack Mortland Race in Yellow Springs, Ohio in 1:30:26. . In the National Invitational races in Washington, D.C., 20 Km wins went to Kevin Eastler in 1:33:51 and Teresa Vaill in 1:37:56. . Australian title winners were Jane Saville in 1:34:18 and Nathan Deakes in 1:23:36. . In England, Ireland's Gillian O'Sullivan overwhelmed Norway's Kjersti Platzer in a women's 20 Km, 1:29:53 to 1:31:08. . The Spanish 50 Km title went to Miguel Odriozola in 3:47:55, nearly 5 minutes ahead of Santiago Perez. Maria Vasco won the women's 20 in 1:28:47.

## The Discussion Continues

Last month, we published an internet letter written by two-time Olympic bronze medalist Larry Young outlining his problems with the judging of modern racewalkers and suggesting that records should not be accepted without video review. We also published a reply from former IAAF Racewalking Chair and International Judge Bob Bowman. Both competed in the same era and were at one time training partners in Southern California. We also indicated the discussion was ongoing and suggested we might include further letters in this issue. Here they are.

Larry replies to Bob:

Bob continues to DENY the key problem in the sport. Most of the top competitors are not in contact with the ground! Video evidence proves it! Lifting is a normal mode of progression today. However, while Bob's letter overall denied this problem, I was surprised that he stated, "The contact rule clarification has NOT lessened loss of contact". "The technique used today by leading walkers has contributed to this." This illegal technique used today began long before the so-called rule clarification; in my opinion the rule clarification has just condoned it. The fact that Bob admits to not viewing video frame by frame suggests that he has not carefully looked at the very evidence I have been describing in my communications. Let me make it clear, I would not have a problem with the style walkers are using today if they were in contact with the ground.

Bob insists that the rules still require walkers to maintain contact with the ground and that judges are tested by video to determine if they are capable of seeing loss of contact. This is certainly a step in the right direction. But to accurately assess this, the examiner must know whether or not the walkers in the test video are obeying the rules. The only way for the examiner to definitively know if the rules are being obeyed, is to preview the test video frame by frame. Otherwise how would the examiner be able to grade the test results accurately? I used this frame by frame observation in my training to study the sequential movement of racewalking; and it helped me to develop a technique that was legal and efficient. This is an excellent way to teach judges about the loss of contact, how deceptive it can be, and how it is next to impossible to see it at regular speed.



I agree with Bob, that "the body is propelled forward by the feet when in contact with the ground", that's a given. But loss of contact does facilitate a faster turnover. If you analyze the video frame by frame you will see that the emphasis by most walkers today is on "pushing off instead of "pulling through," resulting in loss of contact. The consequence of the flight phase is that the heel is landing later in the stride perpetuating loss of contact. This gives the walker a floating look. It's very deceptive even when the walker is inches off the ground and thus requires video-assist to confirm this actual loss of contact.

Bob's argument about the 1972 films having fewer frames/second than today's videos, makes my argument even stronger. When the film is stopped, if the walker is off the ground at the double contact phase, he or she is in violation of the rules no matter what the speed of the film is. It is more difficult to isolate double contact when viewing 8mm film because there are fewer frames per second. But when viewing my films of the top walkers before the late 70s, I haven't had any problem finding continuous contact by most walkers. The video of today, which capture many more frames per second, should make it easier to find the instance of double contact because there are more frames per second. But in fact it is more difficult to find top walkers in double contact in video today. Instead, you find them convincingly off the ground. For judging, we would ideally use a video speed on the order of 500 frames per second – the speed used by biomechanic researchers for analysis of the physics of human movement.

I think the "clarification" of the rules, as Bob calls it, was more of a capitulation to accommodate what was already out of control by 1996. It's interesting that Bob thinks the new knee rule has made such a big difference. I wonder if it hasn't actually contributed to the lifting problem so prevalent today. Coming down with a straight knee makes it much more difficult to have a smooth transition from toe to heel and to maintain contact. In the video of NBC's 2004 Olympic 50 K, there is not only mass lifting, but also failure to straighten the knees by the silver medallist during the late stages of the race and the 5<sup>th</sup> place finisher throughout the race. This is easy to see even at regular speed. Where was the great judging that Bob has been claiming is so much better now than 30 to 40 years ago?

If you have the NBC video of the 2004 Olympic 50 K, go to the clock time 2:29:53 in the race. Stop action and advance the video forward one frame at a time and there you will find Korzeniewski continually off the ground by inches. This is typical of the technique he has used to win all of his Olympic medals, and typical of the technique used by most walkers today. As I said Bob, THE VIDEO DOESN'T LIE. Today's leaders of RACEWALKING MUST get the walkers back on the ground in order for this great athletic event to have credibility. I rest my case.

And Bob responds:

Contrary to what Larry says, I'm not denying anything that isn't true. The fact is race walkers have always broken contact with the ground. They did it when he was walking and they are doing it today. The rules today are the same as when he was walking in regards to loss of contact. Loss of contact must only be seen by the human eyes of judges. Video has never been allowed. This was the case when he and I were competing in the sport and it is the same today.

Larry seems to feel that walkers today are all illegal or certainly less legal than when he was walking. This is simply not the case. The walkers today are judged the same as walkers 30 or 40 years ago. If loss of contact can be seen, it is called by the judges. Contrary to what Larry states, I never stated that I never viewed video frame by frame. Of course I have. However, it has never been allowed to be used for judging purposes. It wasn't when he was walking and it isn't today either.

Larry simply wants a different judging standard today (i.e. video) than was used when he was walking. He apparently feels that the walkers in his day were in contact with the ground at all times and today they are not. This is of course nonsense. Video at the same speed will clearly show he is wrong.

Using video analysis (frame by frame and real time) is certainly a good coaching tool, but to try and use this for judging is impractical. And it certainly wasn't used for this when Larry was walking.

Larry continues to insist that comparing 18 frames per second video from 1972 to 60 fps video of current walkers is valid. He is comparing apples and oranges. This does not make his argument stronger. The fact remains that it is more than 3 times likely to catch a walker off the ground with 60 fps video than 18 fps. If you analyze 60 fps video from the early 70's, the probability of seeing loss of contact is 3 times greater than viewing 8mm film. His discussion on trying to find double contact is not covered in the rules. Again, it is visible (by human eyes only) loss of contact that is against the rules. That is it! It is a very simple concept.

The current bent knee rule certainly has eliminated the creeping style that was often used in former years. It has not contributed to loss of contact. It is just the opposite. The old creeping style of walking often led to jogging. The smallest flight phases measured in video analyses have been registered by some of the current fastest 20Km walkers such as Jefferson Perez. It should also be pointed out that in analyzing video, Larry fails to take into account the actual judging of the races (i.e. 2004 Olympic 50Km). Just because you see a possible violation in a video does not mean a judge also didn't see it and gave a red card. And remember it takes three such violations for a disqualification (The same as when Larry was walking). Therefore, to have a credible analysis, you also need to check the judging summary sheet for any race in which you are analyzing the video.

I also never overstated today's judging as being "great". However, it is clearly better than 30 or 40 years ago when judges were never tested or even required to have 20-20 corrected vision. In the 1968 Olympics, a walker literally ran into the stadium for a silver medal. You didn't need video to see it. This would never happen today. 30 or 40 years ago you had international judges who could never pass today's standards. You had a judge with only one eye! You had international judges in their 70's who were a joke. The same USA judge judged every Olympics during the 60's and 70's and rarely made a call!

I know Larry believes that only he was walking fairly within the rules and that all the walkers before and since are illegal. This of course is complete nonsense. The reason walkers are walking faster today using the same rules regarding loss of contact, with better judging, is that the walkers today (just like any other athletic event) are stronger athletes, using a better technique.

Here is Larry again:

I think we have pretty well exhausted this debate. However Bobs latest response demands an answer. Im glad that others who are receiving these e-mails have a written record of the discussion, because Bob's characterization of the debate does not resemble what is in writing. I have never stated nor given the impression that all walkers 30 or 40 years ago were always legal. I have never stated that all walkers today are not legal. In fact I have been careful to avoid absolutes and have never stated, nor given the impression, that I was the only one who walked legally. I have tried to focus only on examples of the top walkers from both time periods to make my point. They were the medal winners and obviously made it through the race. Maybe I should have left myself out of it, but the film I have from that era has me in it. In addition, I was one of the walkers that Bob claimed had a greater flight phase than

walkers do today (something he said to my face in 1998), and I felt it was important to provide him with evidence that his assertions ARE NOT TRUE!

By focusing on the medal winners it was possible to narrow the discussion to walkers who were allowed to finish the race. Thus the red card issue Bob references does not apply. Anyone, who has viewed video frame by frame from both time periods, can see the convincing evidence that the majority of walkers today are less legal than the majority of walkers from the 60s and 70s. If you have proof to the contrary, show it to me. I have provided evidence to back up my claims, and I'll be glad to review the video proof with anyone.

I agree with Bob that it is better to have film at 60 fps than at 18 fps. It makes it more likely to catch people OFF the ground and ON the ground. However, since my older films at 18 fps were able to catch the walkers ON the ground, his argument does not make sense. Bob uses the example of Padrasa running into the stadium in the Mexico City Olympic 20 K when Rudy Haluza was ripped off for a bronze medal. Yes, it was a blight on the sport, just as it is today when walkers are blatantly off the ground and allowed to finish the race. For Bob to say that this would never happen today is a joke. In the 2004 Olympic 50 K, the Russian in third place was blatantly off the ground coming into the stadium and the Russian in second place was creeping. That's what I find so disturbing today. While some walkers are disqualified, like Nathan Deaks, others who are also in clear violation are allowed to go on to win the gold medal. The 1991 World 50 K championships is another example that comes to mind. Gary Westerfield courageously forced the Russian out of the race when he refused to leave the course after being disqualified, and I give Gary high marks for his actions. The only problem is that the next walker was allowed to finish, and he was also in clear violation of the rules. This is just one of many examples of how out of control the sport has become, even before the so-called rule clarification, and it still is today.

There were some walkers back in my day that used a style very similar to the one used by most walkers today, and they were very often disqualified. Somewhere along the way there was a breakdown in the sport and a culture of wholesale lifting was accepted. If the flight phase is not an advantage then no one would be doing it. And if Bob's claim that "the greater the flight phase the slower you go" is true, then why disqualify anyone for lifting if it's not an advantage?

I have tried not to let this debate devolve into personal attacks, but it is ridiculous for Bob to accuse me of believing I'm the only one who ever walked fairly. Let's try to keep it real Bob.

The issue before us is the integrity and future of the sport. We need people in charge, who are committed to getting walkers back on the ground and who will work with the international walking community to change the way we judge the sport. We can and must change. The time is now to insure fairness through diplomacy to bring technology into the judging of this sport. Olympic committees and the public point the finger at us for our judging problems. As long as most of the top walkers are off the ground, the sport has no credibility and is vulnerable.

And the latest response from Bob:

You made the point following Nathan Deakes' recent 50Km road record which required at least 3 IAAF judges to be judging to be accepted, that there should be an asterik

next to his record, therefore not accepting today's performances. I assume you feel the same regarding Curt Clausen's American Record of 3:48 set in 1999. (Note: Curt has been copied on these emails). You have also indicated you do not accept performances today unless they are judged by video. This of course is a different standard than when you competed. Producing photos of walkers off the ground has never been accepted because it has always been against the rules to do so. It has always been human eye judging. I made the argument

that today's judging is far superior to when you & I were competing. For example, a number of your old friends and fellow competitors have in fact been the judges at the recent world championships and Olympic Games. You have challenged the judging at these events. They have all been copied on these emails. Marty Rudow was Chief Judge in Atlanta in 1996 when Jefferson Perez won the gold medal at 20Km.

I was Chief Judge in 1992 when we indeed did dq a Russian in the stadium who had run past the eventually winner in the Women's 20Km. Ron Daniel judged the 2004 Olympics and I'll leave it to him to explain the situation with the Men's 50Km. Gary Westerfield will be judging the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Both Ron and Gary are current members of the IAAF Level III Panel of International Judges and are excellent judges who have continually scored high in their evaluations, and therefore are among the very best in the world.

Various studies by a number of the major walking federations have been conducted which show with actual measurements that the faster walkers usually have the smallest flight phase. However, when they relax or get tired the flight phase increases. Quite logical. You obviously still must disqualify someone for lifting if clearly seen by the judges even if in last place to protect the integrity of the sport. If it is against the rules, it must be called. And obviously, if you had no loss of contact rule, people could just run or straighten-leg run. Race walking needs to look like walking to remain a unique event inside the Olympic

program. But yes, minimizing the flight phase is consistent with fast walking. And that, believe it or not, is one of the reasons walkers are walking faster today.

And again, producing still frames of walkers off the ground from 60 fps video and comparing that with still frames of walkers on the ground from 18 fps is not a valid comparison. Had they also been filmed at 60 fps, you might also be able to produce stills of them off also.

Ed. Note: I have often thought about putting together an ORW Anthology in which one part would be discussions on judging issues. This is far from the first dialogue such as the above. As a matter of fact, the volume over 42 years might be sufficient for a separate volume. In any case, I welcome any commentary, opinion, diatribe, or whatever regarding the above. For now, I will remark briefly. As I have said many times in the past and reiterated in a note to Larry, I can see no way that video judging could be practical. If you are going to disqualify one person on the basis of a video view it would seem you would be required to view every competitor throughout the race. A few days later, the result can be announced. Not having seen the evidence that both Bob and Larry refer to (other than a few images that Larry included in one of his e-mails), I find it hard to accept Bob's premise that there was a greater flight phase in our day than today. (And, I don't indict today's walkers in any way.) I have many still photos from that earlier era showing a double contact phase—and it isn't easy to catch that instance, even with a high-speed camera. And, I have a few similar photos of today's athletes. I also have plenty of photos from then and now clearly showing both feet off the ground, but, in general, I seem to see as much or more "air" in recent photos than in those of the past. For me, I was always willing to place my fate in the hands of the judges and trust their integrity and abilities. I never worried too much about what others were doing but just tried to go as fast as I could as legally as I could and accept the outcome. Well, no more room.