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Chen, Lashmanova, Kirdyapkin Mine Gold In London

The London Olympics saw Russians Elena Lashmanova at 20 Km and Sergey Kirdyapkin at 50 repeat their World Cup wins of last May, while China's Ding Chen, only ninth at the World Cup, captured gold in the men's 20. Zhen Wang, the World Cup 20 Km winner, was relegated to third here behind surprising Eric Barrondo of Guatemala. As in the World Cup race, Olga Kaniskina followed Lashmanova over the line after leading most of the race. Australia's Jared Tallent moved from third in the World Cup 50 to a silver medal here—his third Olympic medal.

The men's 20 was first up August 4. With all of their racewalking prowess through the years, China had never won a medal in the men's events, but here they dominated the race with Zelin Cai finishing fourth behind Chen, Barrondo, and Wang.

The early pace was quick, but not record fast, and a group of nine walkers was still together at 10 Km, reached in 40:08, with Wang and Chen, still a day short of his 20th birthday, at the front. As the pace quickened to sub 4 minute kilometers (15 km in 59:48) the lead pack dwindled to just five—Chen, pre-race Valeriy Borchin, Wang, Barrondo, and Vladimir Kanaykin.

Chen broke away before they got to the final 2 Km lap, where he had a six-second lead over Borchin, with Barrondo 8 seconds and Wang 11 seconds back. Covering his final lap in 7:35, Chen was never challenged as he finished in an Olympic record 1:18:46, 11 seconds clear, of Barrondo., another youngster at just 21. Barrondo showed promise last year with a tenth place finish in the World Championships but had been disqualified at the World Cup in March. His silver here was he first ever Olympic medal for Guatemala in any sport.

Borchin, meanwhile, collapsed on the final lap having expended all of his energy and was stretchered from the course. The defending champion and two-time World Champion suffered his second disappointment of the season, having finished only tenth in the World Cup race.

In the fastest race in Olympic history, the first six finished under 1:20, with Spain's Miguel Lopez in fifth and Mexico's Eder Sanchez in sixth. Australia's Jared Tallent in seventh was just 2 seconds over 1:20.

The race was an utter disappointment for the Russian racewalking machine as Kanaykin was disqualified just past 16 km and Andrey Krivov, second to Wang at the World Cup, finished a distant 37th.

Trevor Baron walked a steady race, staying within sight of the lead pack through 10 Km, which he reached in 40:41. But a second red card made him walk more conservatively from there and he finished 26th in 1:22:46.

Canada's Inaki Gomez shattered his personal best and broke the Canadian record with a 1:20:58 in 13th place, by far the best Canadian performance since Guillaume Leblanc's second in Barcelona in 1992. Leblanc was also fourth in LA eight years earlier.

After that first 10, the first move to break the field open was by France's Bertrand Moulinet, who along with India's Kolothum Thodi was a big surprise in the race. They



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eventually finished eighth and tenth. At 12 Km, Moulinet led by 4 seconds and Borchin, knowing he needed to cover the move, moved to the front. When Chen made another surge, the pack quickly dwindled to the five mentioned above and the real race was on. When Kanaykin was DQ'd and Borchin collapsed, the medals were decided and even Wang was well back of the first two by the finish.

"I am excited for everybody in China, for my family and my coach," said Chen. "I had good preparation and I executed my plan well. Finally, I have made it!" (An interesting quote from a not quite 20-year-old with, one would presume, most of his career ahead of him.). "I honestly didn't think I was going to win today but things got better as the race progressed. I felt particularly good with two laps to go, and it felt as if the others were going back a little." Chen was coached for a short time by Italy's Sandro Damilano but is now looked after by 1984 Olympian Zhang Fuxin who he thanked for getting him to the starting line in the best possible shape.

On August 11, a week after the men's 20, Russia regained some of their glitter with two golds and a silver. The men's 50 went off in the morning and the women's 20 in the afternoon.

Sergey Kiryapkin, a two-time World Champion and winner of the World Cup earlier this year, went into the 50 as favorite, seeking to atone for his failure to finish the Olympic race in Beijing four years ago. He was highly successful, winning by nearly a minute with an Olympic record time of 3:35:59. This also bettered his personal best of 3:38:08, which he set in Helsinki 7 years ago when winning his first World title.

"I came here to win the gold medal, breaking the Olympic record just happened", said Kiryapkin, who admitted that he and his colleagues Igor Erokhin and Sergey Bakulin intended on competing as a team on what was a hot morning with the opening temperature of 64 F and rising steadily during the race.

By 25 Km, the race had boiled down to a tightly packed group of 10 separated by just 6 seconds with the lead at 1:49:21. It was nearly a minute back to the next group. After 30 Km, China's Tianfeng Si tried to make a break and by 35 Km (2:32:16) had a 6 second lead on Bakulin, with France's Yohann Diniz, Erokhin, and Australia's Nathan Deakers another 4 second back. Lurking just behind them was 20 Km surprise Erick Barrondo, Australia's Jared Tallent, and Kiryapkin at 2:32:27. (Both Diniz and Barrondo were soon disqualified.) China's Jianbo Li and Ireland's Rober Heffernan were just 4 seconds behind them, but then it was another 32 seconds back to Australia's Luke Adams.

At that point, the pack began to break apart and Si eventually stretched his lead to 22 seconds over the chasing Russian trio. A strong team effort by the Russians tracked Si down by 38.5 km and they roared past Si just before the 40 Km mark. A Russian sweep seemed possible.

But Tallent, the silver medalist in Beijing, foiled that effort and Si also rallied as both passed Erokhin and Bakulin before 45 Km, where Tallent trailed Kiryapkin by just 26 seconds. Over the final 5, Kiryapkin determinedly increased his lead to nearly a minute at the finish and Tallent was able to draw gradually away from Si, who trailed him by 23 seconds at the finish. A strong finish by Heffernan caught Erokhin right at the finish line, with both given the same time, some 38 seconds behind Si and a minute ahead of Bakulin.

Kiryapkin noted: "Around the 25-30 km mark I hit the wall. I had to fight with myself but I found my second wind. If I didn't have that small problem, I would have done a

better time."

As for Tallent, he said, "I beat my personal best by two minutes, so it's good. I told Kiryapkin really showed his class today. My plan was to attack that last 10. I don't think I could have done much more."

Tallent and Heffernan completed successful doubles having been seventh and ninth in the 20 a week earlier. Moulinet, who eventually finished tenth had been eighth in the 20 and Germany's Andres Hohne in eleventh improved on a 21st place finish in the 20.

John Nunn had a personal best of 4:03:28 in 43rd place, after going through the first 25 in 1:58:30.

Although beaten by her young teammate, Elena Lashmanova in the World Cup in May, Olga Kaniskina had to be considered the favorite in the women's 20. She was defending champion and three-time World Champion. And, for most of the race it appeared that her quest for a second Olympic gold would be successful.

She started to push the pace early and as she pulled clear of the pack, only China's Hong Liu went with her. By the 6 km mark, the pair were 31 seconds ahead. Continuing to push, Kaniskina was soon on her own, and when she reached 10 km in 42:33, she had a 17 second lead over Liu. It was all Chinese and Russians at the front with Lashmanova, Anisya Kiryapkina, Shenjie Qieyang, and Xiuzhi Lu together in 43:16.

At 14 Km, Kaniskina still led by 33 seconds, but Lashmanova was moving even faster, having caught Liu and pulled well clear of the other three. As she continued to press, she cut Kaniskina's lead to 24 seconds with 4 Km to go and was still leading the others by 3 seconds.

Kaniskina still looked safe at 18 Km, although her lead was down to 17 seconds and now Qieyang was right on the heels of Lashmanova. Olga had just walked her fastest lap of the day at 8:27 and although her two pursuers were 7 seconds quicker, surely another 8:27 would take her safely home.

But Kaniskina was now struggling, gritting her teeth and with exaggerated movement from side to side while the 20-year-old Lashmanova, now pulling away from her Chinese competitor, looked cool and relaxed. With 1 kilometer to go, Lashmanova was within striking distance and the outcome seemed inevitable. She passed Kaniskina with 100 meters to go and opened up a 7 second lead from there to the finish. Qieyang was only another 7 seconds back at the finish and 44 seconds clear of fourth-place finisher Hong Liu.

Although Kaniskina appeared to be really struggling over the final lap, she slowed only slightly, covering it in 8:31. But Lashmanova blitzed an 8:07 and covered her second 10 in 41:46! Her 1:25:02 is a new World Record, although the time has been bettered twice—by Olimpiada Ivanova with 1:24:50 and Kaniskina with 1:24:56. But those were in Russia without the required number of international judges for a World Record.

"This morning, I would never have imagined something like this—I would never have imagined such an outcome," said a delighted Lashmanova. "At the start, I was not sure about how I was feeling. During most of the race, I was at such a distance from the lead that I was losing heart, but at each lap my trainer told me to be calm, to keep quiet and to press on, to not give up. I continued and at the last lap I saw the others were tired and falling behind, so I accelerated and took my chance. But not until I crossed the line did I think I would get a medal."

Kaniskina was gracious in defeat. "It wasn't very lucky for me to lose the race at the last minute, and it's difficult for me to deal with," she said. "I am very pleased for my teammate though, she deserved it."

Further back, Maria Michta became the second fastest American ever as she finished 29th in 1:32:37. Michelle Rohl had a 1:31:51 in 2000. On the way, Maria had her 10 Km best



The gold medalists. Ding Chen, Elena Lashmanova, and Sergey Kirdyapkin.

of 46:02 and then slowed by just 33 seconds over the second half. She slowed from 12 to 18 km, but then walked her fastest lap of the race at the end with a 9:03.

Despite faltering at the end, Kaniskina walked a remarkable even pace for the entire race and she lost only because Lashmanova was able to accelerate so sharply over the final four laps. Kaniskina lap times were: 8:33, 8:30, 8:29, 8:30, 8:31, 8:32 8:31, 8:35, 8:27, 8:31. Lashmanova on the other hand had: 8:38, 8:43, 8:42, 8:41, 8:32, 8:32, 8:24, 8:23, 8:20, and 8:07.

Here are all the results:

Women's 20 Km: 1. Elena Lashmanova, Russia 1:25:02 (World Record) 2. Olga Kaniskina, Russia 1:25:09 3. Shenjie Qieyang, China 1:25:16 4. Hong Liu, China 1:26:00 5. Anisya Kirdyapkin, Russia 1:26:26 6. Xiushi Lu, China 1:27:10 7. Elisa Rigau, Italy 1:27:36 8. Beatriz Pascual, Spain 1:27:56 9. Ana Cabecinha, Portugal 1:28:03 10. Maria Vasco, Spain 1:28:14 11. Masumi Fuchise, Japan 1:28:41 12. Maria Jose Poves, Spain 1:29:36 13. Olive Loughnane, Ireland 1:29:39 14. Eleonora Giorgi, Italy 1:29:48 15. Ines Henriques, Portugal 1:29:54 16. Nadiya Borovska, Ukraine 1:30:03 17. Regan Lambie, Australia 1:30:08 18. Mayumi Kawasaki, Japan 1:30:20 20. Laura Reynolds, Ireland 1:31:02 21. Kristina Saltanovic, Lithuania 1:31:04 22. Agnieszka Szwarog, Poland 1:31:14 23. Agnieszka Dygacz, Poland 1:31:28 24. Agnese Pastare, Latvia 1:31:54 25. Hanna Drabenia, Belarus 1:31:58 26. Brigita Virbalyte, Lithuania 1:31:58 27. Olha Iakovenko, Ukraine 1:32:07 28. Beki Lee, Australia 1:32:14 29. Maria Michta, USA 1:32:27 30. Monica Equihua, Mexico 1:32:27 31. Jany Franco, Guatemala 1:33:18 32. Sandra Arenas, Colombia 1:33:21 33. Claudia Balderama, Bolivia 1:33:28 34. Ingrid Hernandez, Colombia 1:33:34 35. Lucie Pelantova, Czech Republic 1:32:25 36. Nguyen Thi Thanh Phuc, Vietnam 1:33:36 37. Kumi Ootoshi, Japan 1:33:50 38. Claudia Stef, Romania 1:33:56 39. Neringa Aidityte, Lithuania 1:34:01 40. Yadira Guamin, Ecuador 1:34:47 41. Viktoria Madarasz, Hungary 1:34:48 42. Ayman Kozhakhmetova, Kazakhstan 1:35:00 43. Arabelly Orjuela, Colombia 1:35:05 44. Despina Zapounidos, Greece 1:35:19 45. Paulina Buziak, Poland 1:35:23 46. Mayra Herrera, Guatemala 1:35:33 47. Semiha Mutlu, Turkey 1:35:33 48. Nastassia Yamevich, Belarus 1:35:41 49. Vera Santos, Portugal 1:35:51 50. Olena Shumkina, Ukraine 1:36:42 51. Paola Perez, Ecuador 1:37:05 52. Rachel Seaman, Canada 1:37:36 53. Maria Czakova, Slovakia 1:37:43 54. Anne Halkivaha, Finland 1:38:49 55. Milangela Rosales, Venezuela 1:42:46 DQ-Rachel Tallent, Australia; Johanna Jackson, Great Britain; Mirna Ortiz, Guatemala; and Yeongeun Jeon, Korea. DNF-Sabine Krantz, Germany and Sholpan Kozhakhmetova, Kazakhstan.

Men's 20 Km: 1. Ding Chen, China 1:18:46 (Olympic Record) 2. Erick Barrondo, Guatemala 1:18:57 3. Zhen Wang, China 1:19:25 4. Zelin Cai, China 1:19:44 5. Miguel Angel Lopez, Spain 1:19:49 6. Eder Sanchez, Mexico 1:19:52 7. Jared Tallent, Australia 1:20:02 8. Bertrand Moulinet, France 1:20:12 9. Robert Heffernan, Ireland 1:20:18 10. Irfari Kolothum Thodi, India 1:20:21 11. Joao Vieira, Portugal 1:20:41 12. Dzianis Simanovich, Belarus 1:20:42 13. Inaki Gomez, Canada 14. Erik Tysse, Norway 1:21:00 15. Alexandros Papamihail, Greece 1:21:12 16. Ivan Trotski, Belarus 1:21:23 17. Hyunsub Kim, Korea 1:21:36 18. Isamu Fujisawa, Japan 1:21:48 19. Dawid Tomala, Poland 1:21:55 20. Eider Arevalo, Colombia 1:22:00 21. Andre Hohne, Germany 1:22:02 22. Juan Manuel Cano, Argentina 1:22:10 23. Anton Kucmin, Slovakia 1:22:25 24. Grzegorz Sudol, Poland 1:22:40 25. Takumi Saito, Japan 1:22:43 26. Trevor Barron, USA 1:22:46 27. Nazar Kovalenko, Ukraine 1:22:54 28. James Rendon, Colombia 1:22:54 29. Rafal Augustyn, Poland 1:23:17 30. Ruslan Smytrenko, Ukraine 1:23:21 31. Youngjun Byun, Korea 1:23:26 32. Mate Helebrandt, Hungary 1:23:32 33. Gurmeet Singh, India 1:23:34 34. Isaac Palma, Mexico 1:23:35 35. Georgiy Sheiko, Kazakhstan 1:23:52 36. Yusuke Suzuki, Japan 1:23:53 37. Andrey Krivov, Russia 1:24:17 38.

Chris Erickson, Australia 1:24:19 39. Caio Bonfim, Brazil 1:24:45 41. Yerko Aray, Chile 1:25:27 42. Giorgio Rubino, Italy 1:25:28 43. Baljinder Singh, India 1:25:39 44. Mauricio Arteaga, Ecuador 1:25:51 45. Armis Rumbenieks, Latvia 1:26:26 46. Ever Palma, Mexico 1:26:30 47. Ivan Losey, Ukraine 1:26:50 48. Predrag Filipovic, Serbia 1:27:22 DQ—Luis Fernando Lopez, Colombia and Vladimir Kanaykin, Russia DNF—Adam Rutter, Australia; Alvaro Martin, Spain; Ebrahim Rahimian, Iran; Chilsung Park, Korea; Valeriy Borchin, Russia; and Hasinine Sebei, Tunisia.

Men's 50 Km: 1. Sergey Kiryapkin, Russia 3:35:59 2. Jared Tallent, Australia 3:37:26 3. Tianfeng Si, China 3:37:16 4. Robert Heffernan, Ireland 3:37:54 5. Igor Erokhin, Russia 3:37:54 6. Sergey Bakulin, Russia 3:38:55 7. Jianbo Li, China 3:39:01 8. Matej Toth, Slovakia 3:41:24 9. Lukasz Nowak, Poland 3:42:47 10. Koichiro Morioka, Japan 3:43:14 11. Andre Hohne, Germany 3:44:26 12. Bertrand Moulinet, France 3:45:35 13. Chilsung Park, Korea 3:45:55 14. Ivan Trotski, Belarus 15. Jarkko Kinnunen, Finland 3:46:25 16. Horacia Nava, Mexico 3:46:59 17. Marco De Luca, Italy 3:47:19 18. Rafal Sikora, Poland 3:47:47 19. Ihor Hlavan, Ukraine 3:48:07 20. Jesus Angel Garcia, Spain 3:48:32 21. Trond Nymark, Norway 3:48:37 22. Nathan Deakes, Australia 3:48:55 23. Omar Zepeda, Mexico 3:49:14 24. Christopher Linke, Germany 3:49:19 25. Alexandros Papamihail, Greece 3:49:56 26. Luke Adams, Australia 3:53:41 28. Jose Levyer, Mexico 3:55:00 29. Brendan Boyce, Ireland 3:55:01 30. Quentin Few, New Zealand 3:55:03 31. Cedric Houssaye, France 3:55:16 32. Marc Mundell, South Africa 3:55:32 33. Fredy Hernandez, Colombia 3:56:00 34. Junghyun Yim, Korea 3:56:34 35. Serhiy Budza, Ukraine 3:56:35 36. Basanta Bahadur Rana, India 3:56:48 37. Jianguo Zhao, China 3:56:59 38. Dong-young Kim, Korea 3:57:33 39. Marius Cocoran, Romania 3:57:52 40. Pedro Isidro, Portugal 3:58:59 41. Antti Kempas, Finland 4:01:50 42. Mikel Odriozola, Spain 4:02:48 43. John Nunn, USA 4:03:28 44. Maciej Rosiewicz, Georgia 4:05:20 45. Igors Kazevics, Latvia 4:06:47 46. Xavier Moreno, Ecuador 4:09:23 48. Milos Batovsky, Slovakia 4:09:32 49. Vitaliy Anichkin, Kazakhstan 4:14:09 50. Benjamin Sanchez, Spain 4:14:40 51. Dominic King, Great Britain 4:15:05 DQ—Edward Aray, Chile; Andres Chocho, Ecuador; Yohann Diniz, France; Erick Barrondo, Guatemala; Jamie Qiyach, Guatemala; Colin Griffin, Ireland; Yuki Yamazaki, Japan; and Oleksiy Kazmin, Ukraine. DNF—Takyuki Tanii, Japan; Rafal Fedaczynski, Poland; Joao Vieira, Portugal; and Nenad Filipovic, Serbia

There were many National records set during the competition, as follows:

Men's 20 Km—Inaki Gomez, Canada 1:20:58; Juan Manuel Cano, Argentina 1:22:10; Irfan Kolothum Thodi, India 1:20:21; and Alexandros Papamihail, Greece 1:21:12

Women's 20 Km—Nguyen Thi Thanh Phuc, Vietnam 1:33:36

Men's 50 Km—Robert Heffernan, Ireland 3:37:54; Chilsung Park, Korea 3:45:55; Alexandros Papamihail 3:49:56; Emerson Hernandez, El Salvador 3:53:57; Marc Mundell, South Africa 3:55:32; and Bahadur Basanta Rana, India 3:56:48

Finally, an interesting quote from 50 Km winner Sergey Kiryapkin on being a racewalker: "We are just not right in the head. That's why we are interested in it."

Meanwhile, other things were happening:

USATF National Masters 5000 and 10,000 Meters, Lisle, Illinois, August 3–4—Chris Schmid, the pride of Wooster, Ohio, highlighted the meet as he shattered age group records at both distances. In the 5000, his 25:21.22 took more than 40 seconds off Jack Bray's age 65–99 record of 26:01.92, set in 1998. That same year, Max Green set the 10 Km record at 54:04. Chris took 1:40 of that mark with his 52:24.40. But Bray and Green also shone with double wins in the age 75–79 and 80–84 groups, Max walking strongly again after battling injury for several years. David Swarts had two impressive races in the 45–49 group. Here are the results: 5000 meters, Aug. 3: Women 35–39. 1. Ali Bahr 28:22.46 W55–1. Debbie Topham, Pegasus AC 29:59.11 2. Sandra DeNoon, Fla. AC 31:41.14 3. Donna Green, Chicago Walkers 32:56.91 W60–1. Marianne Martino, High Altitude 30:30.40 2. Ann Harsh, Fla. AC 31:27.56 3. Doris McGuire, un. 36:14.55 W64–1. Panseluta Geer, Shore AC 32:13.25 M30–1. Matt DeWitt, Parkside AC 24:59.40 M35–1. Omar Nash, Miami Valley TC 24:08.28 M45–1. David Swarts, Pegasus AC 23:53.11 2. John Soucheck, Shore AC 27:14.74 3. Bruce Logan, Park RW 31:00.35 4. Art Morrow, South Cal. Track Club 32:12.32 M50–1. Jim Scott, Abe's Striders 28:12.31 2. Michael Blanchard, High Altitude 29:35.59 M55–Mark Green, Pegasus 26:18.14 2. Damon Clements, un. 28:58.54 3. Klaus Thiedmann, Chicago Walkers 29:32.58 M60–1. Andrew Smith, Pegasus 26:45.28 2. Michael Wiggins, S.C. TC 28:29.63 3. Mike DeWitt, Parkside AC 30:25.50 4. Richard McGuire, un. 31:24.71 5. Ron Winkler, Parkside 36:36.36 M65–1. Chris Schmid, World Class RW 25:21.32 2. Leon Jasionowski, Pegasus 28:09.95 3. Peter Armstrong, New Mexico Walkers 32:28.20 4. Alan Morrow, Atlanta TC 34:04.52 5. Joel Dubow, Atlanta RC 34:24.92 M70–1. Gary Stack, un. 32:44.15 2. David Gordon, un. 34:39.05 3. Bernie Finch, SC TC 38:27.02 M75–Jack Bray, un. 32:21.14 M80–1. Max Green, Pegasus 35:39.03 2. Alfred Dubois, Parkside 36:38.45 10,000 meters, Aug. 4: Women 55–59. 1. Debbie Topham, Pegasus 61:17.55 2. Donna Green, Chicago Walkers 67:34.00 3. Sandra DeNoon, Fla. AC 68:42.60 W60–1. Marianne Martino, High Altitude 63:04.20 2. Ann Marsh, Fla. AC 64:13.20 3. Cathy Mayfield, Pegasus 65:41.20 W65–1. Panseluta Geer, Shore AC 61:14.60 M30–1. Matt DeWitt, Parkside 51:22.00 M35–1. Omar Nash, Miami Valley 54:02.60 M45–1. David Swarts, Pegasus 49:20.20 2. John Soucheck 55:15.00 3. Bruce Logan, Park RW 62:57.50 4. Art Morrow, SC TC 68:48.90 M50–1. Jim Scott, Abe's Striders 56:12.60 2. Byron Kaelin, World Class RW 76:19.60 M55–1. Mark Green, Pegasus 54:52.60 2. David Coutts, Racewalkers 56:06.70 3. Damon Clements, un. 58:44.50 4. Klaus Thiedmann, Chicago Walkers 59:31.40 5. Vince Peters, Miami Valley 65:40.60 M60–1. Andrew Smith, Pegasus 55:35.50 2. Michael Wiggins, SC TC 58:00.30 3. Mike DeWitt, Parkside 62:44.10 4. Richard McGuire, un. 64:10.10 M65–1. Chris Schmid, World Class 52:24.40 2. Max Walker, Pegasus 58:58.42 3. Leon Jasionowski, Pegasus 58:52.10 4. Peter Armstrong, NM Walkers 65:55.30 5. Alan Morrow, Atlanta TC 69:21.50 6. Joel Dubow, Atlanta 69:43.90 M70–1. Bernie Finch, SC TC 81:42.26 M75–1. Jack Bray 70:01.40 M80–1. Max Green, Pegasus 70:10.40 2. Alfred Dubois, Parkside 74:53.00

U.S.-Canada, Junior Meet, Northeast and Weinacker Cups Toronto, Aug. 9: Jr.

Women's 5 Km—1. Nicolette Sorensen, USA 26:00 2. Katelynn Ramage, Canada 26:25 3. Abigail Dunn, US 26:45 4. Maite Moscoso, US 26:51 5. Kaitlin Flanders, US 26:53 6. Katy Michta, US 27:42 7. Simran Rai, Canada 30:56 8. Mandy Roach, Canada 31:21 Team Score: USA 14 Canada 8 **Jr. Men's 10 Km**—1. Ben Thorne, Canada 42:11 2. Michael Nemeth, US 45:17 3. Marek Adamowicz, Canada 47:10 4. Nathaniel Roberts, US 48:33 5. Jonathan Hallman, US 51:26 6. Anthony Peters, US 51:56 7. Mitchell Brickson, US 53:33 8. Jeff Surprenant, Can. 55:03 Team Score: Canada 12 USA 10. Total Score—USA 24 Canada 20 **Open Women's 5 Km**—1. Jenny Hoshioan, Ontario 28:37 2. Chelsea Rodriguez, Ontario 29:04 3. Sarah Raetsen, Ontario 31:04 4. Anne Dethy, Ontario 31:42 5. Kylie Campbell, Ontario

36:14. . 9. Susan Lolli, Mich. 40:38 **Open Men's 5 Km**—1. Spencer Dunn (14) Maine 28:30 2. Donald Cote, Quebec 29:03 3. Frederic Demers-Forgues, Quebec 29:24 **Open Women's 10 Km**—1. Lauren Van Leewen, Ontario 54:50 2. Linda Wilson (56), Ontario 60:00 3. Sarah Zahab 61:29 4. Sandy Archibald (53), Ontario 62:22 5. Katie Smith, Michigan 63:40 6. Catherine McCormack (40), Ontario 66:44 7. Amanda Schneider, British Col. 67:34 **Open Men's 10 Km**—1. David Swarts (47), Michigan 48:49 2. Dan O'Brien (47), Michigan 54:10 3. Patrick King (65), Ontario 61:32 4. Ken Atkins (56), Ontario 65:10 5. Marshall Sanders (71), Michigan 69:24 DQ—Michael Mannozi, Ohio DNF—Creighton Connolly, Brit. Col. Weinacker Cup Scoring: Men—Ontario 16 Michigan 3 Women—Michigan 14 Ontario 7 Total: Ontario 23 Michigan 17

Other Results

5 Km Races, Long Branch, N.J.: July 30—1. Melissa Endy (13) 31:39 2. Panseluta Geer (65) 31:39 3. Grace Endy (9) 37:22 **Men**—1. Ron Salvio (63) 32:44 2. Fred Linkhart (59) 33:17 3. Ray Robertson (68) 33:30 4. Tom Quattrocchi (61) 34:21 5. Pat Bivona (73) 35:01 6. Bill Meixner (62) 35:28 7. Nolan Kus (1) 35:51 (9 finishers) **Aug. 6**—1. Panse Geer 32:37 2. Maria Paul (47) 33:59 **Men**—1. John Fredericks (64) 31:04 2. Ron Salvio (63) 32:58 3. Tom Quattrocchi 33:51 4. Pat Bovina 34:11 (6 finishers, 1 DNF) **Aug. 13**—1. Panse Geer 32:03 **Men**—1. John Soucheck (46) 28:12 2. John Fredericks 31:27 3. Fred Linkhart 33:06 4. Tom Quattrocchi 33:37 5. Pat Bivona 34:38 7. Ben Ottmer (78) 36:21 (8 finishers, 1 DNF) **Aug. 20 (2 miles to wrap up the summer series)**—1. Panse Geer 20:11 **Men**—1. John Soucheck 17:45 2. Tom Quattrocchi 20:49 3. Fred Linkhart 20:51 (5 finishers) **1500 meters, Virginia Beach, Va., Aug. 18: Women**—1. Irene Fletemeyer (17) 8:07.25 2. Rebecca Garson (48) 8:32.72 3. Paula Graham (49) 9:30.29 4. Linda Janssen (50) 9:38.61 (6 finishers) **Men**—1. Tom Gehrad (61) 8:02.44 2. Peter Blank (47) 8:55.78 3. Richard Kole (73) 9:57.22 (8 finishers) **Penn. Senior Games, Harrisburg, July 27: 1500 meters, Women**—1. Mary Jacobsen (52) 8:55.53 2. Kay Brinkley (66) 10:04.68 3. Kim Keller (44) 10:21.34 (12 finishers) **Men**—1. James Carmine (69) 9:10.37 2. John Kosterman (64) 9:19.96 3. Ron Shelds *60) 9:49.59 4. Jack Osman (69) 10:09.91 5. David Michael (65) 10:11.80 (18 finishers) **5000 meters, Women**—1. Kay Brinkley 35:29.12 2. Kim Keller 37:52.09 (7 finishers) **Men**—1. James Carmine 32:52.32 2. John Morrison 35:00.0 3. Jack Osman 36:38.14 4. David Michael 37:56.20 (8 finishers) **North Region 3 Km, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., Aug. 22**—1. Andy Kaestner 2. Sam Cohen 17:20 3. Ron Winkler 20:19 4. Al Dubois 20:38 5. Cheir Wagner 20:41 6. Gary Tubb 20:57 (10 finishers). **5 Km, Boulder, Col., June 24**—1. Francisco Pantoja 21:30 2. Susan Randall 26:01 3. Gerardo Pantoja 27:50 (8 finishers) **New Mexico State 3 Km, Albuquerque, Aug. 12**—1. Nehemiah Cionelo (12) 17:05 2. Laura Draelos (51) 17:30 3. Mandy Owens (45) 17:47 4. Peter Armstrong (67) 18:41 5. Kerri Segell (56) 18:55 6. Moriah Cionelo (16) 20:41 7. Taylor Gonzales (12) 20:49 (16 finishers, 2 DQ) **Finnish Nationals, Lahti, Aug. 25: Men's 20 Km**—1. Jarkko Kinnunen 1:26:17 2. Antti Kempas 1:27:44 **Women's 10 Km**—1. Karolina Kaasalainen 46:58 2. Annie Halkivaha 48:10 (Kinnunen now has 10 National titles including four at 20 Km. Kaasalainen won her fourth 10 Km title.) **Spanish National Women's 10 Km, Domingo, Aug. 26**—1. Beatriz Pascual 43:18.97 2. Maria Jose Poves 44:22.59 3. Julia Takacs 46:00.46 4. Ainhoa Pinedo 46:10.56 5. Eve Marie Iglesias 46:30.50

Challenge Your Pedestrian Skills At These Venues

Sat. Sept. 1 5 Km Chestertown, Md. (T)

Sun. Sept. 2 2 Miles and 10 Km, Houston (G)
 Sat. Sept. 8 5 Km, Felton, Del. (T)
 Sun. Sept. 9 **National USATF 40 Km, Ocean Twp., N.J. (A)**
 5 Km Lewes, Del. (T)
 Sat. Sept. 15 5 Km, Stoneham, Mass. (E)
 Sat. Sept. 22 5 Km, Dover, Del. (T)
 Sat. Sept. 29 **National USATF 5 Km, Kingsport, Tenn. (D)**
 5 Km, Millsboro, Del. (T)
 Sat. Oct. 6 12 Hour, Troy, Ohio ()
 Sun. Oct. 7 **National USATF 1 Hour, Waltham, Mass. (D)**
 Half-Marathon, Sandy Hook, N.J. (A)
 Sun. Oct. 14 Half-Marathon, Seaside Heights, N.J. (A)
 Sun. Oct. 28 **USATF National 30 Km, Valley Cottage, N.Y. (D)**
 (Also Pan Am Cup 50 Km Qualifier)
USATF National Masters 20 Km, Coconut Creek, FL. (B or D)
 Coney Island Boardwalk 5 and 10 Miles, Brooklyn, N.Y. (P)
 Sun. Nov. 11 5 and 10 Km, Wilmington, Del. (T)
 Sun. Nov. 18 5 Km, Milford, Del. (T)
 Thur. Nov. 22 5 Km, Dover, Del. (T)
 Sat. Nov. 24 5 Km, Dover, Del. (T)
 Sat. Dec. 1 **Pan Am Cup Qualifiers for men and women at 20 Km and Juniors at 10 Km, Pharr, Texas (D or O)**
 Sat, Dec. 29 10 Miles, Asbury Park, N.J., 10 am (A)
 Sun. Dec. 30 5 Km, Dover, Del. (T)
 Mon. Jan. 1

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From Heel To Toe

Olympics Opening Ceremonies—a brief observation. The lead article in Sports Illustrated's pre-Olympic issue—Higher, Faster, Stronger Kitsch—echoed what I have been saying for many years regarding the opening ceremonies at Olympic Games. More and more glitz and hoopla that simply draws form attention to the athletes, who used to be the centerpiece of the ceremonies. I have always felt that I was fortunate to be part of the last Olympics with Opening Ceremonies that truly reflected the purpose of the ceremony—Tokyo in 1964. Things started to deteriorate in Mexico City and get worse every four years. So, I was thinking that I needed to write a letter to Sports Illustrated congratulating them on their astute observation. Then I came to the following, as they described what to expect this time around: "...picnicking families, a troupe of National Health Services nurses, British humor (although probably not Monty Python's Ministry of Sill Walks; the men's 20 Kilometer racewalk is not until Aug. 4)." So much for a letter of thanks. Another media putdown. Because of my feelings as expressed above, I skipped most of the telecast of the Ceremonies, but was watching the parade of athletes. And lo and behold, when Ecuador appeared, the commentator referred, respectfully, to their greatest Olympic athlete—Jefferson Perez. And by some miracle, Bob Costas, sitting beside him—he who has denigrated racewalking in the past with his "witty" remarks—kept his mouth shut. Nothing about who can whisper the loudest. Perhaps he was biting his tongue, remembering angry letters in the past, but for whatever reason, he passed on an opportunity to put us down once again. Thank you Bob for what you didn't say. Maybe in four more years you might even muster up some positive comment. We can hope. . . **Quotes from U.S. Olympians.** **Trevor Barron:** "I felt good. I decided I was going to go with the pack as long as I could. Once they picked up a little faster than I was wanting to go, I started get a few cards and at that point I started to slow it down. I had two cards by 12 Km, so I had to play the last 8 safe. Overall it was great. This is once every four years that we have a crowd like this and it is motivating. I had people cheering for me that I had never seen before and that was exciting." **Maria Michta:** "I think I raced the first kilometer with my head and my last 15 with my heart. It was the best race in every scenario. I wanted to set a 10 Km PR, get the Olympic A standard, set a personal best—everything I wanted and more happened today. It is just a dream come true, everything that I did getting to this point has all been worth it to have a race like this." **John Nunn:** "There is still a lot of improvement to do, but I was pleased. I went through halfway in 1:58:30, and I was with a good group of guys. It wasn't too fast for the first half, but I just didn't have the strength for the second half that I was hoping to. I was just hoping to go a little faster the second half for sure. I just started walking 50 Km 9 months ago, so there is still a lot of room for improvement, but this is good step in the right direction." (John wasn't completely new to the 50 this year. In 2007, he finished third in the National race in 4:14:16. But, he has found a new level this year and apparently plans to go on from there.) . . . **A long one.** Jack Blackburn is again holding a 12 Hour walk in Troy, Ohio Oct. 6. It's the third year for the fund raising event, the first one having been at 24 hours. It's a fund raiser for Jack's endeavor, Corinn's Way, a non-profit community social-service agency established to help young women and their families struggling with issues beyond those associated with normal parameters of parenting. For further information contact Jack at Corinn's Way, Inc., 405 Public Square, Troy, OH 45373, 937-552-9599, corinnsway@live.com. . . **A shoe decision.** This from my March 1974 issue of this newsletter: "During a recent trip to the shoe store, I was looking at some Hush Puppy high-top shoes. or low-top boots, or whatever you might call them. They had none to fit me, but did have a similar shoe with nice fleecy lining, soft leather uppers, and thick, treaded rubber soles. After purchasing these, I was trying them on at home

and speculating to my wife on how they might be for racewalking. After a few tentative strolls through the living room, I suddenly remembered the name on the shoes and cast away all thoughts of using them for racewalking—I had bought them just for everyday wear. I could see being asked at a race, "What kind of shoes are those, Jack?" "Oh, these are my Bates Floaters." "Yeh, that figures Mortland." And that reminds me that Todd Scully had a very successful career in the '70s and '80s competing in Hush Puppies. And in an even earlier age, bowling shoes were the shoe of choice for some racewalkers. Back in the middle of the last century, the athletic shoe boom was in its infancy and the selection was not great. And there some interesting theories on shoes. Many insisted that a walking shoe must have a distinct heel as in dress shoes. And Don Thompson, 1960 Olympic 50 Km gold medalist, told us that any shoe that weighed less than 14 ounces should be banned because the lighter shoe could only lead to lifting. This was in Tokyo at the 1964 Olympics at a time when many racewalkers were turning to flats, primarily adidas, whose only real competitor was Puma, the factories being on opposite sides of a German village and run by brothers who had a family feud going—the sons of adidas founder Adi Dassler. Which tells you where the name adidas came from. Somewhere along the line, adidas gave up their battle for the proper pronunciation—a'-di-das. Incidentally, in the early '60s, Jack Blackburn had a pair of Fosters—a British shoe that certainly fit Don Thompson's vision of the proper shoe, including the distinct heel. Jack had much bigger feet than I—I think maybe 13 to my 7 ½. In any case, I could put his Fosters on over my adidas 190s. End of today's shoe diatribe.

Racewalking, What You Need To Know!

By someone who should know!

Following is the text from an IAAF media guide to racewalking prepared before the Olympics and presumably distributed to the press so they might better understand what's going on. . . Written by Australian international Jane Saville, it is an excellent, concise description of our discipline. Pass it on to your friends who wonder what you are doing. Note that the IAAF media guide was presented with a color photos and a lot more glitz than just the text, which we repeat here. Jane Saville was a bronze medalist in the 20 Km at the 2004 Athens Olympics after suffering a disheartening DQ in Sydney in 2000. She was shown the red flag as she entered the stadium apparently on her way to gold for a final victory lap.

Actual Rule has two parts both equally important: Basically racewalkers must maintain contact with the ground at all time (Referred to as the "contact" part of the rule) and the walker's knee must straighten ("Knee" part of the rule) when the foot hits the ground and stay straightened until the leg passes under the body.

Only judged by naked eye VIDEO Replays or slow motion are not used to judge.

Course in London is 2 Km long. There are eight judges from eight different countries spread along the course. **The Chief Judge** supervises all the judges and holds the **Red Paddle**; he/she does not allocate red cards but merely messengers of DQ's.

Yellow paddles: Shown to athletes when the judge is not completely satisfied the athlete is walking within the rules: they are borderline. Basically, the judge is saying to the athlete "I'm looking at you carefully and you need to improve." These **do not contribute to an athlete's disqualification**. Can receive only one yellow paddle from each judge for each of the two infractions (contact and knees.) The yellow paddles have the symbols on them for each of the different infractions: " " and " " for contact.

Red cards: given by judge if he/she believes athlete is breaking the rules, only once during race by judge for either knees or contact. Never shown to athlete directly; so athletes do not know which judge has written the card.

Three red cards from different judges = Disqualification (DQ).

POSTING BOARD or currently referred to as **DISQUALIFICATION BOARD**

(DQ BOARD): is an electronic scoreboard where red cards and the symbol relating to the offence are displayed for athletes to see. That is, if an athlete receives a red card then beside his/her bib number on the DQ Board will be shown either of the two symbols referring to the offence incurred.

Red paddle is only shown to an athlete when they are DQ'ed and is only used by the Chief Judge and Chief Judge Assistants (2) at Olympics.

In the last 100 meters the Chief Judge has to power to show the red paddle to DQ an athlete, regardless of number of red cards, if he/she believes the athlete is obviously breaking the rule. **This is to prevent athletes blatantly cheating in last part of race if they don't have any red cards.**

DQ doesn't mean you were running! It just means you weren't racewalking according to the rules. 99.9% of athletes who are DQ'd do not intentionally break the rules, but sometimes the pressure of the competition or fatigue brings on technical faults.

How fast are they walking?

World record for Men's 20 Km is 1:17:16. Equates to 3:51 per Km and 15.53 Km/hour.

World record for Women's 20 Km is (was) 1:25:08. Equates to 4:15 per Km and 14.1 Km per hour.

World record for men's 50 Km is 3:34:14. Equates to 4:17 per Km and just over 14 Km per hour. Men will go through marathon distance in around 3 hours!.

Multiple Olympic Medals

The Track and Field News web site has an interesting feature on Olympic statistics, which shows that repeat medalists in the racewalk events are few and that Larry Young is in rather exclusive company. In the 50 Km, which has been contested 17 times, beginning in 1932 (with no race in '76), only eight athletes have more than one medal. Poland's Robert Korzeniowski with his three golds is joined as a triple medalist by Sweden's John Ljunggren with a gold, silver, and bronze. *(So, your editor's claim to fame is that I beat an aging John Ljunggren in the Tokyo Olympics, 16 years after his Olympic gold, albeit by only 28 seconds. But, to keep from getting too full of myself, I must also note that my time in that race would have placed only 50th in London—in the women's race!)* Only six others have won two medals at 50—East Germany's Hartwig Gauder with gold and bronze; Italy's Abdon Pamich with gold and bronze; Russia's Denis Nizhegorodov with silver and bronze; East Germany's Ronald Weigel with silver and bronze; Australia's Jared Tallent, who just picked up his second silver in London; and Larry with his two bronzes.

At 20 Km, which has been contested 14 times, beginning in 1952, Russia's Vladimir Golubnichiy collected four medals, two gold and one each silver and bronze, and Italy's Maurizio Damilano garnered three, a gold and two bronze. Only three others have won two medals—Ecuador's Jefferson Perez with gold and silver; East Germany's Peter Frenkel with gold and bronze; and East Germany's Hans Georg-Reiman with silver and bronze. Golubnichiy, incidentally, after winning medals in 1960, 1964, 1968, and 1972, added a seventh place in 1976—a record of longevity completely unmatched.

Of these 13 multiple medalists, only three have collected a medal at both events. Korzeniowski also won a gold at 20, joining Golubnichiy as a four-time Olympic medalist; Weigel, also won silver at 20; and now Tallent, who had a 20 Km bronze in 2008.

However, when we look at the events that preceded the 20 and 50, we find a third four-time medalist, Italy's great Ugo Frigerio. Ugo won three golds—at 3500 meters in 1920 and at 10 Km in 1920 and 1924. He then added a bronze in the first Olympic 50 in 1932. The first multiple medalists in racewalking events were England's George Larnar who won gold at both 10 miles and 3500 meters in 1908 and Ernest Webb with silver in both those events, as

well as a silver at 10 Km in 1912. Finally, there was Sweden's John Mikaelsson who won gold at 10 Km in both 1948 and 1952, and Switzerland's Fritz Schewab with a bronze and silver in those two races. So, we have 18 walkers who have won more than one Olympic medal. and, in summary, they are:

4--Ugo Frigerio, Vladimir Golubnichiy, and Robert Korzeniowski

3--Maurizio Damilano, John Ljunggren, Jared Tallent, Ernest Webb, and Ronald Weigel

2--Peter Frenkel, Hartwig Gauder, George Larnar, John Mikaelsson, Denis Nizhegorodov,

Abdon Pamich, Jefferson Perez, Hans Georg Reiman, Fritz Schwab, and Larry Young.

ORW Outlasts the Yellow Rags

In the June 1983 issue of this prestigious journal, under the title "What's That We Smell?" we wrote the following:

"Who among us remembers the Guano Press? Launched in 1972 by three young radicals—Greg Diebold, Howard Palamarchuk (the same well-respected podiatrist who now head's racewalking's subcommittee on sports medicine), and Gerry Willwerth—this infamous rag rocked the racewalking world with its scurrilous attacks on the establishment. Nothing was sacred to these purveyors of yellow journalism and no one escaped their barbs. Unfortunately, for those of us who enjoyed their scathing satire (even when directed at our own arch-conservative stance), this scandal sheet was rather short lived as these reckless youths grew up and found better things to do with their lives." *(2012 editorial comment: Something that your editor obviously has never done.)*

"Well hold our noses! Another band of renegades with time hanging heavy on their hands has emerged. The Guano Press has been resurrected, rising not from sewers and gutters of the Eastern Seaboard, but from the supposedly clean, pure mountain air of Colorado. Ah, but the stench certainly belies the pristine origins. Volume I of the face Tight Press (formerly Guano Press) has reached us from Colorado Springs, home of the U.S. Olympic Training Center and some of our nation's top walkers. The staff remains anonymous—unless you want to accept such names as Human Smurf, Gumby, Mr. Potatoe (sic) Head, and the Fly (alias Hymeto).

"But obviously, this vituperative rag is the handiwork of walkers in residence at the Center. With nothing to do but racewalk all day, this crew had to turn their foul, fetid minds to something, lest they decay completely. Although some of the 3-page issue is devoted to inside humor—or is it that I am too old, out of contact, and reactionary to understand—it is still worth every cent I paid for it. Perhaps not quite up to Guano standards, but a passable first effort."

But Face tight too had a very short life and the racewalking world again had to rely on the tired old Ohio Racewalker to keep abreast of goings on. When is the next Guano Press going to emerge so that we can know what is really happening out there?

So here we are, 24 years later, and the new Guano Press is still awaited and the tired old ORW has stumbled into its 48th year, though probably largely superceded by the very internet that the editor relies on so much.

LOOKING BACK

50 Years Ago (From the August 1962 American Race Walker, published by Chris McCarthy in Chicago)—Ron Laird left the rest of the field from the start and cruised to an easy win in the National 35 Km in Seattle. His 3:20:21 effort left Ed Glander more than 20 minutes back at the finish. Claude Wrathall was third. . . John Allen won the New York State 2 Mile in 14:38.5 with George Shilling second. . . John Harwick won the Jr. National 30 Km ahead of Regis Brown (who eventually achieved international status as Jerry Brown). . . Olavi Yli Tokala
45 Years Ago (From the August 1967 ORW)—Ron Laird was the star of the month and then some. He first won the Pan American 2 Km title in 1:33:05, leaving an up-and-coming Mexican walker, Jose Pedraza, nearly 2 minutes behind. Later, Ron did a 43:10.4 10 Km on

walked a 6:45 mile in Providence, R.I.

the road in England, 44:36.8 American record on the track in Germany, and a 1:28:19 20 Km to beat 1964 Olympic 50-km gold medalist, Abdon Pamich, in Italy. . . Larry Young walked the same three European races in 45:19, 46:22, and somewhere in the low 1:30s, after winning the Pan Am 50 Km in 4:26:21. . . With those two in Europe, Tom Dooley had his best ever distance race, to that time, to win the National 40 Km in 3:30:10, 2 minutes ahead of Goetz Klopfer. . . Bob Kitchen showed his great promise at the distances with a third place finish in 3:34:04. . . Dooley was fourth in the 20 and Klopfer third in the 50 at the Pan Am Games.

40 Years Ago (From the August 1972 ORW)—Larry Young completed a busy July with a win in the Senior 40 Km in Long Branch, N.J. in what seems a very slow 3:39:59.4. However with the temperature at 93 F and the humidity high, it was no insignificant performance. John Knifton was 8 minutes back and Todd Scully was the only other walker able to better 4 hours in the conditions. . . Jeanne Bocci won the women's National 1500 meters in 6:59.1 over Lynn Olsen and Sue Brodock. A week later, she did 6:50.4 to beat the same two, with Brodock ahead of Olsen this time. . . The Strasbourg-to-Paris 500 km race went to Luxembourg's Josey Simon in 67:03:28 with Belgium's Robert Schoucken second.

35 Years Ago (From the August 1977 ORW)—Larry Young won his eighth National 50 Km title and fourth in a row with a 4:19:58 clocking in Columbia, Missouri. Taking the lead from Dan O'Connor just after 20 Km, Young pulled away gradually the rest of the race. Augie Hirt went with Young briefly, but couldn't hold the pace and was soon repassed by O'Connor, who took second in 4:24:06. Hirt had 4:25:50, Tom Dooley 4:26:56, Bob Rosencrantz 4:29:23, and Randy Mimm 4:32:01. . . In the Women's World Championships, Sweden's Siv Gustavsson walked a world best 22:57 to win the 5 Km and lead her team to victory. Sweden's Elizabeth Olsson won the 10 Km in 51:35. For the U.S., Sue Brodock was third in the 5 at 23:55 and Jeanne Bocci fourth at 52:53. . . Maccabiah Games titles went to Bob Rosencrantz of the U.S. at 3 Km (23:45.5 and Israel's Shaul Ladany at 50 Km (4:43:58) in extreme heat in Israel. . . Tom Knatt captured the National 40 Km in 3:33:28 with Carl Schueler 4 minutes back. Wayne Glusker and Bob Falcicola followed. . . England's Colin Young won the Rouen, France 24 hour race for the third time, covering 210,717 Km. . . The Paris-to-Strasbourg race, covering some 507 Km that year, went to Robert Schoucken in 64:11.25 with Josy Simon 1 hour back. . . Neal Pyke won the National 15 Km in Santa Monica, Cal. in 1:09:50 with Larry Walker second in 1:10:32.

30 Years Ago (From the August 1982 ORW)—In the Women's World meeting in Bergen, Norway, the Soviet Union emerged as easy winners with Alexandra Devinskaya winning the 10 Km race in 48:11.1 ahead of Sweden's Ann Jansson (48:14) and Susan Liers-Westerfield of the U.S. (49:25). Australia's Sue Cook won the 5 Km in 23:09.2, but the Soviets took second and third, with Ludmilla Krustcheva just 4 seconds back of Cook. Teresa Vaill led the U.S. in 7th with 24:28. With 110 points, the USSR finished 32 points ahead of Norway, followed by Sweden, the U.S., and Australia. . . The U.S. men took third in a five-nation international with races at 20 and 50 Km. West Germany's Franz Josef Wever won the 20 in 1:24:46 with Great Britain's Steve Barry (1:25:00) and Jim Heiring of the U.S. (1:25:32) taking second and third. Ray Sharp was fourth. The 50 went to Sweden's Bo Gustavsson in 3:53:22 as Marco Evoniuk came second in 4:03:13 for the U.S.. West Germany had 65 points ahead of Sweden (52), USA (50), Great Britain (45), and Norway (27). . . Heiring and Sharp tied for first in the 20 Km at the National Sports Festival a week later in 1:28:29, more than 6 1/2 minutes ahead of third-place Todd Scully. The 50 went to Ray Somers in 4:37:50 with Martin Kraft (4:43:10) in second.

25 Years Ago (From the August 1987 ORW)—U.S. Sports Festival titles went to Marco Evoniuk at 35 Km (2:50:51), Gary Morgan at 20 Km (1:31:10), and Marryaane Torrellas at 10 Km (47:55). The races were held in very hot conditions in Durham, N.C. . . Morgan also took Lafortune, and Paul Schwartzerg following. . . The women's 10 Km race went to Debbi Larwence in 48:31, nearly 3 minutes ahead of Torrellas. . . Mexicans swept the gold in the Pan

the National 10 Km at Niagara Falls in 44:05, with Ray Sharp (45:07) and Canada's Michel American Games in Indianapolis. Carlos Mercenario captured the 20 in 1:24:10, Maria Colin the 10 in 47:18, and Martin Bermudez the 50 in 3:58:53. Tim Lewis was second in the 20 in 1:25:20 and Maryanne Torrellas third at 10 in 48:26, behind Canada's Ann Peel. . . Italy's Giovanni DeBenedictis previewed his Olympic success in '92 (bronze) with a win at the European Junior 10 Km in 39:44.71. Spain's Valentin Massana (see below) was second.

20 Years Ago (From the August 1992 ORW)—In the Barcelona Olympics, hometown boy Daniel Plaza was a surprise winner at 20 Km. His teammate, Valentin Massana, had the silver medal in sight, but was pulled by the judges as he approached the Stadium. (Four years later, Massana got bronze at 50 in Atlanta.) That moved Canada's Guillaume Leblanc, with the finest race of his brilliant career, into second place with DeBenedictis third. Plaza walked 1:21:45, 40 seconds ahead of Leblanc, who was 46 seconds clear of the Italian. . . 1980 Champion Maurizio DeMilano was fourth. Humidity took its toll in the race. Andrei Perlov got clear of Carlos Mercenario over the final 10 Km to win the 50 for Russia in 3:50:13. The Mexican was 2 minutes back and well ahead of Ronald Weigel in third. Chinese women took 1,3,5 in the women's 10 Km. Yueling Chen (who would represent the U.S. 8 years later) won in 44:32. Yelena Nikolayeva was just a second back, with Chunziy Li was third.

15 Years Ago (From the August 1997 ORW)—Italy's Annarita Sidoti walked a commanding race to win the World Championship 10 Km in Athens. Her 42:55 left Olga Kardopolitseva of Belarus 35 seconds back and 19 seconds ahead of teammate Valentina Tsybulskaya. The men's 20 Km went to Mexico's Daniel Garcia in 1:21:43, 10 seconds ahead of Mikhail Schennikov of Russia. Mikhail Khmelinskiy, Belarus, was third in 1:22:05. Curt Clausen had 1:32:05 in 24th. After a arace-long battle for the lead, Poland's Robert Korzeniowski outlasted Spain's Jesus Garcia to win the 50 in 3:44:46. Garcia had 3:44:59 with Mexico's Miguel Redriquez third in 3:48:30. Andrew Hermann of the U.S. was DQ'd.

10 Years Ago (From the August 2002 ORW)—In the European 50 Km Championships, Korzeniowski was untouchable as he walked the fastest 50 to that time with his 3:36:39. He took a commanding lead by 20 Km and eventually finished nearly 4 minutes ahead of Russia's Aleksandr Boyevodin (3:40:16). Garcia was third in 3:44:33. The women's 20 went was another walk-away win as Russia's Olimpiada Ivanova walked a swift 1:26:42. She moved steadily away from teammate Yelena Nikolayeva (1:28:20) over the second half of the race. Italy's Erica Alfridi was third in 1:28:33. It was not a meet for close races as Spain's Francisco Fernandez won the men's 20 in 1:18:37 with Vladimir Andreyev, Russia, second in 1:19:56 and Spain's Juan Manuel Molina third in 1:20:36. . . Ecuador's Jefferson Perez dropped in on the U.S. National 10 Km race in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. and strolled to an easy win in 39:59. Curt Clausen won the U.S. title in 42:20 ahead of Tim Seaman's 42:37. The women's race went to Teresa Vaill in 48:43 with Jill Cobb second in 50:40 and Jolene Moore third in 51:24. . . Australia's Nathan Deakes won twice at the British Commonwealth meet taking the 20 in 1:25:25 and the 50 in 3:52:40. His countrywoman, Jane Saville, won the women's 20 in 1:36:34.

5 Years Ago (From the August 2007 ORW)—Jefferson Perez, Ecuador, won his third consecutive World Championship, overcoming stifling conditions and the favorite Francisco Fernandez of Spain as he came home in 1:22:20. Fernandez was 20 seconds back with Hatem Ghoulia, Tunisia, finishing third in the same time. Kevin Eastler was 28th in 1:28:20. The women's 20 and the 50 were conducted too late in the month to make our August issue, so you will find them in Looking Back next month. . . National 15 Km titles went to Jolene Moore in 1:14:21 and Chris Tegmeier in 1:13:58. The races were held in Minneapolis. . . This issue devoted much space to the passing of Corinn Blackburn, the mother of our Publisher Emeritus Jack Blackburn and the mother of women's racewalking in Ohio, and perhaps the nation. She died at age 94. Her husband, Dr. John, had died seven years earlier and we devoted much space to this amazing couple and their contributions to our sport and to life well lived.