

Ohio Race Walker
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OHIO RACEWALKER



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Chinese Host and Dominate Challenge Final

Erdos, China, Sept. 14 (IAAF News Release by Mirko Jalava)—The Chinese grabbed wins in both the men's and women's 10 Km races at the IAAF Racewalking Challenge Final in this Inner Mongolian city. The races went almost as expected, with Chinese men showing their strong position in the racewalking world by bagging the first four places and their women winning the race with a third place as well.

The races were held in sunny weather, but cool with the temperature under 60 F. In the men's race, it was more or less Olympic bronze medalist Shen Wang against Olympic champion Ding Chen and even though Chen was clearly stronger in London, the more experienced Wang was a bigger favorite to win here. Despite having only turned 21 in August after the Olympics, Wang had won the previous IAAF Challenge Final in 2010 in Beijing with an Asian record 37:44, also the World Junior best, and finished in fourth place at the 2011 World Championships before grabbing the bronze in London.

In this competition, Wang, who also won the World Cup 20 Km in May, didn't want to leave things late and won his second Challenge Final in 39:27. The course was not fast enough for record breaking this time, but the distance to others says that Chinese men will be a dominant force, along with the Russians, for years to come. All of their top walkers in the 20 Km distance are 20 or 21 and have many years ahead of them. Second in today's competition was another 21-year-old, Zelin Cai, who finished in 39:44. Cai finished an impressive fourth place in London at his first major championship. Olympic Champion Chen could not answer to Wang this time and finished third in 39:51.

Jianbo Li, seventh in the London 50 Km completed an impressive 1-2-3-4 finish for the hosts with a 39:56 personal best. Surprisingly, the best non-Chinese athlete in the race was 20-year-old Australian Dane Bird-Smith, who clocked 40:32 in fifth. The national 20 Km champion could well be the next Australian medalist in major championships after Jared Tallent, who finished well behind his younger countryman in 11th place today.

The race started rather leisurely, with opening 1 Km laps in 4:20 and 4:08 that left 12 of the 14 competitors in a tightly bunched pack. After a 3:58 on the third laps, Wang sprinted to a 3:43 on the fourth to open a lead he never relinquished. A fifth lap in 3:48 solidified his lead and he was then content to stroll home with his final laps in the 3:54 to 3:58 range.

In the women's race, the picture was similar to the men's race as 25-year-old Hong Liu prevailed. She has been the number one since her 2006 Asian Games win, but, fell victim to a too fast opening 10 Km in London and finished in a disappointing fourth place behind countrywoman Shenjie Qieyang. But in this competition, Liu was again the biggest favorite and competing in a similar white cap as she did in London and usually does in every competition, was her usual self winning her first IAAF Challenge in a comfortable 43:18. This was the first win in the women's race to a non-Russian walker since the 10 Km distance was introduced in 2009. Liu had finished in second place twice in a row in 2010 and 2011 after not taking part in 2009.

Portugal's 28-year-old Ana Cabecinha recorded maybe the best achievement of her career with a second-place finish in 43:31 keeping young Chinese Xiuzha Lu behind her. Cabecinha has been quickly moving up in placings in this race having finished sixth in 2010 and fourth in 2011. Just 18, Lu is the brightest Chinese walking prospect behind Liu and

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Qieyang. She recorded a 43:37 personal best and world junior leader for third place after finishing in sixth place in London. Beatriz Pascual of Spain was fourth in 43:54

After a slow first 1 Km lap that saw all 10 competitors together in 4:36, Liu stepped it up with 4:20s on the next laps to open a lead, which she increased with successive laps of 4:18, 4:16, 4:15, and 4:19 and slowed only slightly on the final three laps.

The results:

Women's 10 Km: 1. Hong Liu, China 43:18 2. Ana Cabecinha, Portugal 43:31 3. Xiuzhi Lu, China 43:37 4. Beatriz Pascual, Spain 43:54 5. Elisa Rigaud, Italy 44:24 6. Tatiana Korotkova, Russia 44:52 7. Claire Tallent, Australia 45:29 8. Ines Henriques, Portugal 46:10 9. Olive Loughnane, Ireland 46:57 DQ—Shenjie Qieyang, China

Men's 10 Km—1. Zhen Wang, China 39:27 2. Zelin Cai, China 39:44 3. Ding Chen, China 39:51 4. Jianbo Li, China 39:56 5. Dane Bird-Smith, Australia 40:32 6. Hiroki Arai, Japan 40:41 7. Eder Sanchez, Mexico 40:50 8. Miguel Angel Lopez, Spain 41:01 9. Luke Adams, Australia 41:06 10. Matej Toth, Slovakia 41:33 11. Jared Tallent, Australia 42:29 12. Rhydian Cowley, Australia 43:24 13. Yuki Yamasaki, Japan 46:47 DNF—Tianfen, Si. China

Columbians Shine As Shorey and Taylor-Talcott Cop 40 Km Titles

Ocean Township, N.J., Sept. 9 (From Elliott Denman)—Guest entries Samuel Babativa and Rodrigo Moreno of Colombia led the way and Shore Athletic Club members Ben Shorey and Erin Taylor-Talcott walked off with American titles in the 74th Annual USA Track and Field National Championship 40 Km racewalk (*Ed. Note that in those 74 years it has gone from AAU National to Athletics Congress National, to USATF National as the governing body has changed.*)

The event, staged at Joe Palaia Park, attracted 40 competitors representing 14 states and two nations. They ranged in age from 13 to 85. The competitors covered a certified 2 Km loop course (including an unfortunately flooded seven-meter area) 20 times for the complete 40 Km distance.

Babativa crossed the line in 3:20:14 with Moreno right behind in 3:20:21, after taking over the lead from early pacesetter Shorey midway through the race.

This was Shorey's first National 40 Km title and he did it in 3:29:12. Taylor-Talcott, the 2011 women's winner in 3:41:59, made this her fourth USA 40 Km title, winning decisively in 3:44:59, setting an American 25 Km record of 2:13:22 en route.

The World Class Racewalking team trio of Dan Serianni, Chris Schmid, and Dave McGovern won the men's team title, while Pegasus AC of Michigan won the men's Masters team crown with Ray Sharp, Max Walker, and Rod Craig. Host Shore AC threesomes placed second in both categories.

Setting National 40 Km age-group records were Ohioan Chris Schmid (Men 65-59) with 4:02:10 and Indiana's Cathy Mayfield (Women 60-64) with 4:54:50. In addition, South Carolina's Jonathan Hallman set a U.S. junior men's 25 Km record of 2:13:42; Californians Jonathan and Darlene Backlund set age-group records at 35 Km, and Schmid added records at 30 and 35 Km.

The results:

Men: Guests: Samuel Batativa, Colombia 3:20:14 and Rodrigo Moreno, Colombia 3:20:21 1. Ben Shorey, Shore AC 3:29:12 2. Dan Serianni, World Class RW 3:33:25 3. Ray Sharp, Pegasus AC (1st 50-54) 3:43:44 4. Dave Talcott, Shore AC (2nd 50-54) 3:47:00 5. Chris Schmid, World Class RW (1st 65-59) 4:02:10 (U.S. Age Group Record. Also records at 30 and 35 Km with 2:57:12 and 3:29:21) 6. Dave McGovern, World Class RW (1st 45-49) 4:16:30 7. Max Walker, Pegasus AC (2nd 65-59) 4:20:04 8. Rod Craig, Pegasus (3rd 50-54) 4:29:12 9. Alexis Davidson, Brooklyn (1st 55-59) 4:32:29 10. Bill Vayo, Shore AC (2nd 45-49) 4:39:20 11. Bruce Logan, Park Walkers (3rd 45-49) 4:46:40 12. Tim Chelius, Shore AC (4th 50-54) 5:04:27 13. Tom Quattrocchi, Shore AC (1st 60-64) 5:11:21 14. John Backlund, So. Cal. Walkers (1st 70-74) 5:18:56 15. Eliot Collins, Shore AC (2nd 60-64) 5:58:04 16. Robert Newhouser, NY Walkers (2nd 55-59) 6:28:31
Team Scores: 1. World Class RW 11:52:05 2. Shore AC 11:55:32 3. Pegasus AC 12:32:00
Masters: 1. Pegasus 12:32:00 2. Shore AC 13:30:55

Women: 1. Erin Taylor-Talcott, Shore AC 3:44:45 (U.S. record of 2:13:22 at 25 Km) 2. Tammy Stevenson, Wasatch Walkers, Utah (1st 40-44) 4:23:10 3. Cathy Marfield, Pegasus (1st 60-64) 4:54:50 (U.S. age group record) 4. Rebecca Garson, Tidewater Striders (1st 45-49) 4:55:28 5. Maria Paul, Shore AC (2nd 45-40) 5:04:26 6. Dorit Attias, Walk USA (1st 50-54) 5:14:58 7. Darlene Backlund, So. Cal. Walkers (1st 65-59) 5:15:18 (U.S. age group record and 35 Km record of 4:35:26)

Results at other distances:

25 Km—1. Jonathan Hallman, South Carolina 2:13:41 (US Junior record)

20 Km—1. John Soucheck, Shore AC 1:50:58 2. Peter Bayer, Florida AC 2:39:42

10 Km—1. Bob Keating, New England Walkers 57:52 2. James Carmines, un. 1:05:39 3. Jack Starr, Philly Masters 1:13:00 4. Tom Hartman, Shore AC 1:31:33

Women's 20 Km—1. Lisa Marie Vellucci, East Side TC 2:13:26 2. Panse Geer, Sore AC 2:18:05

Women's 10 Km—1. Melissa Endy, Shore AC 1:04:59

Some additional notes on the race: This was the 48th time in the past 49 years that the Shore AC of New Jersey served as host club of the National 40, and I think Elliott Denman has been the Race Director for all 48 of those. The first National 40 Km winner was John Rahkonen in 1939 with a time of 3:55:57.6. Tim Seaman holds the meet record of 3:06:17 set in 2002. There have been three five-time winners: Ron Laird in 1959-1961 and 1969; Dan O'Connor in 1978-1981 and 1990; and Ray Sharp in 1982, and then in his dotage, in 2006-2009. After Seaman, Carl Schueler had the second, third and fourth fastest winning times with 3:14:03, 3:13:57, and 3:15:04 in 1983, 1984, and 1985.

On the women's side, Susan Armenta had the fastest women's time with 3:32:08 in 2002. Taylor-Talcott is the only four-time winner. Susan Liers-Westerfield (1981, 1982, and 1983) and Elton Richardson (1991, 1992, and 1993) both had three wins.

Before its extended run in New Jersey, the race had often been contested in Cincinnati and Dayton, Ohio, and even right here in Columbus in 1960. Results of that 1960 race, which I didn't even see, let alone participate in, since I was at a U.S. Army Reserve meeting on that day: 1. Ron Laird, NY Pioneer Club 3:45:16 2. Jack Blackburn, Ohio TC 3:54:26 3. Chris McCarthy, Chicago Track Club 3:57:00 4. John Allen, un. Buffalo 4:00:16 5. Jim Hewson, Buffalo 4:03:24 6. Dale Arnold, Dayton AC 4:05:34 Team: 1. NY Pioneer Club (Laird, Bruce McDonald, and Elliott Denman 8 pts. 2. Dayton AC 17.

New Albany Walking Classic

Organized by the New Albany Walking Club and sponsored by The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center this event is the largest walking only race in the U.S. drawing both serious competitors and recreational walkers whose goal is to walk for health and enjoyment. New Albany in a Columbus suburb. The Eighth Annual Event featured both a 10 Km and a Half-Marathon. I must admit that I have never attended the event, but here are this year's results:

New Albany Classic, New Albany, Ohio, Sept. 16: Women's 10 Km—1. Susan Randall 49:49 2. Jill Cobb 50:02 3. Abby Dunn 55:14 4. Emily Belovich 60:31 5. Janet Michal 61:27 6. Annette White 61:44 7. Deana Farrar 62:42 8. Holly Cash 62:54 **Men's 10 Km**—1. Mike Mannozi 45:12 2. Omar Nash 49:22 3. Jacob Gunderkline 50:50 4. Joel Pfahler 51:42 5. Vince Peters 60:43 6. Richard Shea 61:52 7. Jeff Musser 62:26 8. Keith Pryor 63:11 (1704 finishers, men and women) **Half-marathon: Women**—1. Kathleen Pryor 2:12:18 2. Shirley Fearheily 2:19:38 3. Cindy Wildman 2:28:22 **Men**—1. Chris Schmid 2:01:02 2. Russell McMahon 2:06:56 3. Gus Ormrod 2:16:59 4. Tim Finkes 2:18:17 (349 finishers, men and women)

More Results

Jr. Olympics, Baltimore, Md., July 23-24: Bantam Girls 1500 meters—1. Camila Vicens, Track Houston 8:14.96 2. Lily Stoneman, Northwest 8:45.94 3. Ksenia Nakonechny, New Jersey 9:30.80 4. Caitlynn Chanat, New Jersey 9:38.43 5. Grace Endy, Westfield 9:41.83 6. Lynesee Belliotti, Arizona 9:44.78 (26 finishers, 2 DQ) **Bantam Boys 1500**—1. Kelvin Jackson, E-1 TC 10:19.37 2. Robert Hackett, Deanwood Cowboys 10:59.23 (6 finishers, 1 DQ) **Midget Girls 1500**—1. Ewert Taylor, Miami Valley TC 7:41.31 2. Kirra Facer, Temecula Rangers 7:52.95 3. Julisa Juarez, South Texas 7:59.79 4. Itzel Gonzalez, South Texas 8:19.90 5. Gisela Flores, South Texas 8:26.96 6. Marsanatha, Northwest 8:31.98 7. Terry James, Central Florida 8:34.74 8. Dani Murasmith, Temecula Rangers 8:37.78 9. Julianne Gerritsen, New Jersey 8:39.76 10. Narda Garcia, South Texas 8:44.33 (35 finishers, 4 DQ) **Midget Boys 1500**—1. Jason Gomez, Oak Hill Racing 7:33.33 2. Juan Moscoso, Central Florida 7:39.23 3. Jonathan Aguilar, South Texas 7:49.86 4. Angelo Peters, Elgin Sharks 8:21.63 5. Nolan Allen, Waltham TC 8:39.92 6. Erik Renn, New Jersey 8:45.12 7. Oliver Vreeland, United So 8:57.30 8. Tyreh Parish, Dfw All Stars 9:12.34 (22 finishers, 2 DQ) **Youth Girls 3000**—1. Caitlin Palacio, Lsi Sprint 15:53.19 2. Kasandra Rodriguez, South Texas 16:46.94 3. Melissa Endy, Westfield 17:36.02 4. Damaie Davis, Woodlawn 18:09.69 5. Rachel Byron, Texas Storm 18:10.95 6. Desiree Espericueta, South Texas 18:34.76 (18 finishers, 7 DQ) **Youth Boys 3000**—1. Andy Vasquez, Cornhusker 15:32.59 2. Matias Serna, South Texas 16:09.82 3. Casey Kiefer, New Jersey 17:11.92 4. Michael Belovich, Miami Valley TC 18:10.92 5. Tyler Otis, un. 18:20.53 (12 finishers, 4 DQ) **Intermediate Girls 3000**—1. Katie Michta, Walk USA 16:07.06 2. McKhayla Roberts, Cornhuskers 16:18.73 3. Emily Belovich, Miami Valley 16:35.11 4. Alexa Kluepfel, Walk USA 17:12.41 5. Allison McConville, Walk USA 17:30.24 6. Jennifer Lopez, Elgin Sharks 17:46.96 7. Anali Cisneros, Elgin Sharks 17:55.99 8. Denisse Aguilar, Northwest 18:09.10 (15 finishers) **Intermediate Boys 3000**—1. Alexander Peters, Elgin Sharks 14:15.44 2. Anthony Peters, Elgin Sharks 14:26.92 3. Geraldo Flores, South Texas 15:05.05 4. Cliff Tilley, Lightning 17:10.73 5. Moses Watson, un. 17:22.90 6. Davis Heister, Florida AC 17:55.70 (10 finishers) **Young Women 3000**—1. Maite Moscoso, Central Florida 14:58.77 2. Brittany Collins, Walk USA 16:17.69 3. Stephanie Saccente, Walk USA 16:21.71 4. Annica

Penn, un. 16:23.51 5. Holly Lindoe, Walk USA 16:32.32 6. Kelly Maranchuck, Walk USA 16:43.71 7. Molly Josephs, Walk USA 16:46.17 8. Sarah LaPorta, Walk USA 17:08.34 9. Bailey Kem, Penfield AC 17:25.78 a0. Cassandra Delgado, Elgin Sharks 17:42.25 11. Irene Fletemeyer, The Titans 17:43.44 (19 finishers) **Young Men 3000**—1. Samuel Graves, Fort Mead 15:03.52 (Only finisher, 2 DQ. Interesting to note that all DQ's in the meet were for bent knees.)

5 Km, Denver, Aug.—1. Francisco Pantoja 20:54 2. Gerado Pantoja 26:29 3. Mike Blanchard 29:57 4. Patty Gehrke 32:50 5. Rita Sinkovec 35:27

64th Annual Paris to Colmar, June 20-23, 436 Km (Originally Paris to Strasbourg. The distance varies each year according to the route. It has often been more than 500 km)—1. Dmitri Ossipov 55:54:26 2. Philippe Thibaux 56:02:26 3. Domingue Buel 58:05:13 4. Urain Girod 48:59:23 (8 finishers) **Women's 228.9 Km, same time**—1. Dominique Alverhe 36:33:18 2. Irina Poutinseva 37:59:26 3. Nicoletta Mizrg 38:29:06 4. Maggy Labyille 38:39:01 **24 Hours, Dijon, France, May 12-13**—1. Serge Georgelin 188,033 meters 2. Philippe Vit 183,543 3. Sergei Lukyanov, Russia 179,838 (32 finishers) **24 Hours, Chateau-Thierry, France, March 31-April 1**—1. Urbain Girod, Switzerland 203,055 meters 2. Dominique Bonel 201,992 3. Philippe Morel 197,198 (24 finishers) **28 Hours, Roubaix, France, Sept. 15-16**—1. Zoltan Czukor, Hungary 234,304 meters 2. Vinny Lynch, Great Britain 232,323 3. Richard Gerard, G.B. 228,241 4. Gilles Letessier 222,228 **Women**: 1. Nicoletta Margonelli, Italy 206,220 2. Maggy Labyille 188,637 3. Dominique Alverhe 186,645 **Women's 3000, Chojnice, Poland, Aug. 25**—1. Agnieszka Ellward 13:22.02 2. Monika Nawrocka 13:26.17 3. Justina Swierczynska 13:28.61 **Spanish 10 Km, Pamplona, Aug. 26**—1. Miguel Angel Lopez 40:25.31 2. Benjamin Sanchez 41:45.67 3. Luis Balboa 41:52.47 4. Luis Martinez 42:22.93 **5000 meters, Krakow, Poland, Sept. 8**—1. Gzregorz 19:30.69 2. Jakub Jelonek 19:30.80 3. Dawid Tomala 20:09.27 4. Rafal Augustyn 20:11.03 5. Rafal Sikora 20:29.29 6. Rafal Fedaczynski 20:39.21 **Women's 3000, same place**—1. Agnieszka Dygacz 12:31.89 2. Pauline Buziak 12:51.62 3. Agnieszka Szwarnog 12:47.85 5. Katarzyna Golda 13:32.07 **3000 meters, Bedford, England, Aug. 26**—1. Alex Wright 11:45.41 2. Tom Bosworth 12:13.47 3. Dominic King 12:43.90 **Women**—1. Jo Jackson 12:57.20 2. Heather Lewis 14:00.58 3. Bethan Davis 14:04.27 **3000 meters, Dubnica Slovakia, Aug. 26**—1. Matej Toth 11:05.95 2. Anton Kucmin 11:15.32 3. Grzegorz Sudol, Poland 11:21.90 4. Dudan Majdon 11:47.97 **5 Km, Athens, Greece, Aug. 29**—1. Zacharias Tsamboudakis 20:35.6 2. Igor Liaschenko, Ukraine 20:44.1 **Women**—1. Despisa Zapounidou 22:01.2 **24 Hours, Waldincourt, Belgium, Aug. 25-26**—1. Philippe Morel 206,735 meters 2. Gilles Letessier 193,587 3. Patrick Langlois 193,1000 4. Patrick Lailier 192,825 **Finland-Sweden Dual Meet, Finnkampen, Finland Aug. 31: Men's 10,000**—1. Jarkko Kinninen, Fin. 40:11.83 2. Aku Partenen, Fin. 40:29.84 3. Perseus Karlsson, Sweden 40:40.47 4. Ato Ibanez, Sweden 41:16.84 (DQ—Antti Kempas, Finland and Andreas Gustafsson, Sweden. Gustafsson crossed the line first in 40:11.37, but was DQ'd for a violation in the last 100 meters.) **Women's 5000**—1. Karolina Kaasalainen, Finland 23:17.93 2. Anne Halkivaha, Fin. 23:42.34 3. Stiv Karlsson, Sweden 23:57.88 4. Henrika Parviainen, Fin. 25:45.86 5. Elin Hoggreth, Sweden 26:08.55 6. Monica Mansson-Martinsson, Sweden 26:19.45 (Karlsson, the European bronze medalist at 10 Km 20 years ago, now age 55, is old enough to be the grandmother of the 15-year-old Henrik Parviainen. Team Score—Finland 14 Sweden 7.) **Russian Cup, Vovonova, Sept. 16: 5000 meters**—1. Mikhail Ryjov 39:11 2. Aleksey Bartsakin 39:31 3. Petr Bogatyrev 39:33 4. Petr Trofimov 39:37 5. Jakub Jelonek, Poland 39:49 6. Aleksey Golovan 39:54 **Women**—1. Tatyana Korokov 43:24 2. Marina Panalakova 43:35 3. Irina Shushina 44:50 4. Evdekia Korotkova 45:06 6. Agnieszka Szwarnog, Poland 45:35 **Jr. 10 Km**—1. Kirili Frolov 41:09 2. Aleksandr Pichkalov 42:55 Jr.

Women 10 Km—1. Anna Ermina 43:35 **Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway Match, Eskilstuna, Sweden, Sept. 15:** Men's 20 Km—1. Erik Tysse, Norway 1:20:39 2. Ato Ibanez, Sweden 1:22:24 3. Andreas Gustafsson, Sweden 1:23:20 4. Timo Viljanen, Finland 1:23:43 5. Tadas Suskevicius, Lith. 1:27:33 6. Edgar Gjacs, Latvia 1:28:05 7. Genediy Kozlovskiy, Lith. 1:28:19 8. Ricardas Bekst, Lith. 1:28:27 Men's 20-22 20 Km—1. Perseus Karlstrom, Sweden 1:23:43 2. Aleksi Ojala, Finland 1:28:21 3. Havara Harkenens, Norway 1:28:50 Women's 10 Km—1. Brigita Virbelyte, Lith. 45:16 2. Agnese Pastare, Latvia 47:49 3. Karolina Kassalainen, Finland 48:15 4. Siv Karlstrom, Sweden 48:43 4 5. Kristina Plastace, Latvia 49:15 Men 18-19 10 Km—1. Marius Sarelakis, Lith. 42:18 2. Elmo Koivunen, Finland 45:15 3. Normantas Petrisa, Lith. 46:35 **Chinese National Student Games: 10,000, Sept. 16—1.** Zhen Wang 38:30.38 2. Zelin Cai 38:59.98 3. Yufei Cai 39:22.47 4. Tianlei Li 39:49.44 5. Ding Chen 40:04.04 (11 finishers, 2 DQ) **Women's 5000, Sept. 16—1.** Hong Liu 20:34.76 2. Ewhejia Qieyang 20:42.47 3. Shanshan Wang 20:51.89 4. Jingjing Nie 21:05.84 5. Yangxue Mao 21:12.91 6. Ni Gao 21:47.61 (14 finishers, 1 DNF, 1 DQ) **20,000, Sept. 18—1.** Fanguang Xu 1:23:06.83 2. Tianlei Li 1:23:37.21 3. Yafei Chu 1:24:28.37 4. Zhiyao Geng 1:27:53.09 (7 finishers, 2 DNF, 2 DQ) **Women's 10,000, Sept. 18—1.** Jingjing Nie 44:11.26 2. Shandhan Wang 44:12.15 3. Yangxue Mao 44:31.32 (11 finishers, 1 DNF, 4 DQ) **Brazilian Under 23 Championships, Sept. 8—1.** Caio Bonfim 1:25:14.1 **Australian 20 Km Adelaide, Aug. 26—1.** Dane Bird-Smith 1:23:28 2. Rhyddian Cowley 1:24:34 3. Brendan Reading 1:30:42 Women—1. Claire Tallent 1:31:12 2. Cheryl Webb 1:38:41 3. Lynn Ventras 1:40:42 **South American Under 23 20 Km, Sept. 22—1.** Caio Bonfim, Brazil 1:23:22.8 2. Jose Montana, Colombia 1:23:46.5 3. Richard Vargas, Venezuela 1:29:40.6 **Women, Sept. 23—1.** Yaseida Corrilla, Colombia 1:38:29.51 2. Wendy Cornejo, Bolivia 1:40:14.28 3. Anily Pineda, Colombia 1:41:04.69

Places To Treasure For Your Racewalking Pleasure

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)
Sat. Oct. 27	5 and 10 Km Brevard, N.C. (L)
Sun. Oct. 28	USATF National 30 Km, Valley Cottage, N.Y. (D)
	(Also Pan Am Cup 50 Km Qualifier)
Sat. Nov. 10	1 Hour, Virginia Beach, Va. 8 am (W)
Sun. Nov. 11	USATF National Masters 20 Km, Coconut Creek, FL. (B or D)
Sun. Nov. 18	Coney Island Boardwalk 5 and 10 Miles, Brooklyn, N.Y. (P)
Thur. Nov. 22	5 and 10 Km, Wilmington, Del. (T)
Sat. Nov. 24	5 Km, Milford, Del. (T)
Sat. Dec. 1	5 Km, Dover, Del. (T)
Sat. Dec. 29	Pan Am Cup Qualifiers for men and women at 20 Km and Juniors at 10 Km, Pharr, Texas (D or O)
Sun. Dec. 30	10 Miles, Asbury Park, N.J., 10 am (A)
Mon. Jan. 1	5 Km, Dover, Del. (T)

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From Heel To Toe

Kaniskina hints at retirement. This from the European-Athletics web site: One of the greatest racewalkers of recent times, Olga Kaniskina, has informed the Russian media of her plans to quit the sport before the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio. After winning an Olympic gold medal in Beijing, silver in London, and three consecutive world titles, as well as the 2010 European crown at 20 Km, the 27-year-old is even cautious about her chances of competing at the IAAF World Championships in Moscow next summer. "The final decision on my future plans has not been taken yet. I cannot even make plans for the year ahead. I was supposed to retire after the Olympics in London, but they have asked me to stay for one more year until the World Championships in 2013," she was quoted according to European Athletics. (*Ed. Interesting that she can't decide on her own when she wants to retire.*) There are rumors that Kaniskina will be asked to take over as director of the Saransk Sports Center, a hotbed of world-class racewalking. According to the rumors, the matter was discussed at the presentation of the Olympians at a ceremony in the Kremlin between the sports minister, Vitaly Mutko and Kaniskina's coach, Viktor Chegin. When asked, Kaniskina was guarded in her answer. "Better to ask them, not me. Nothing realistic has been offered and in any case, the new Center has not been built yet." **While Seeger carries on.** Runblogrun.com reports that German racewalker Melanie Seeger confirmed she will continue her career until the European Championships in 2014. Seeger, who is now 35, aims at ending her career on a high and focuses on one last solid performance when competing in Zurich in 2014. **And Diniz?** Also from runblogrun: European walking champion Yohan Diniz spent two weeks with his family in Barcelona and now will prepare for the New York City Marathon, where he also competed last year. He wants to forget his terrible disqualification in the 50 Km race at the London Olympics, where he finished eighth and later was removed from the results because of accepting a bottle of water out of the official area. Diniz has not decided about his future and

plans and has thoughts of switching his preparations to 20 Km. **Racewalking DVD offered;** Jeff Salvage and Tim Seaman are well known for their racewalking clinics. Now they have produced a DVD, "Race Walk Clinic-in a DVD", that captures the essence of their live clinics without the travel and expense. Narrated by both Tim and Jeff, this DVD walks you through their classroom sessions; essentially their lectures in a box. They offer a detailed description of correct racewalking technique, discuss Tim's training philosophy (which to lead to four Olympic berths and five of the six US Olympic Trials 20 Km medals), their analyses of "Looking at the Best" racewalkers in the world, a photo story highlighting important concepts related to racewalking, and a 320 fps slow motion video from the 50 Km Olympic Trials showing America's best 50 Km men walking stride for stride when everything was on the line. America's best racewalkers are trained under the TEAMS system and in this DVD you can learn from the best to maximize your performance. The price of the DVD is \$39.99 plus shipping and handling. Go to _____ for further information. . . **Qualifying standards.** Qualification standards for next summers World Championships are Men's 20: A-1:24:00 B-1:26:00.; Women's 20: A-1:36:00, B-1:38:00; Men's 50: A-4:02:00, B-4:16. These standards seem to give the US. a shot at sending full teams. It all depends on who is willing to put in the necessary work. .

Golubnichiy Named to Inaugural IAAF Hall of Fame Class

(Based on an IAAF Press Release) Ukraine's two-time Olympic Champion and multiple World record breaker Vladimir Golubnichiy is the latest athletics legend to be named as one of the 24 inaugural members of the IAAF Hall of Fame, which has been created to mark the year of the IAAF Centenary. The IAAF is the international governing of track and field. Golubnichiy is the first racewalker named and will undoubtedly be the only racewalker in the inaugural class.

Golubnichiy, who represented the Soviet Union in his competitive days, is one of only a handful of athletes who have competed at five or more Olympic Games and the Ukrainian, who concentrated on the 20 Km event internationally, can look back to a long and illustrious career at the highest level. He set his first 20 Km World Record at the age of just 19 in 1955 but will be best remembered for his two-Olympic titles (1960 and 1968) and the World record he set in 1958 (1:27:05), which was to remain on the books for almost 11 years.

"The incredible career of Golubnichiy made his inclusion in the IAAF Hall of fame unquestionable," commented IAAF President Lamine Cudk. "Not only was he a repeat Champion and World record holder, the span of his international career was truly awe-inspiring. With a silver and bronze (1964 and 1972) giving him a total of four Olympic podium places, he was still good enough for seventh place at the 1976 Olympics.

It would have been six Olympics and, perhaps, five medals, had he not had a serious liver infection in 1956. It took a year for him to fully recover, but in 1958 he was back strong enough to recapture his World Record, which had passed through the hands of three of his compatriots in the three years since he had first set it.

Nevertheless, he was not the favorite in Rome in 1960 after finishing fifth in a trial race. But the Soviet selectors had faith in him and he repaid them handsomely with the gold medal, taking the lead at the halfway point going on to a 9 second victory over Australia's Noel Vickers in 1:34:07.2 in scorching conditions.

Four years later in Tokyo, he had to settle for a bronze medal but in 1968, at altitude in Mexico City, he reinforced his reputation for preparing meticulously for the big occasion when he held off the local hope Jose Pedraza to win by a mere three meters. He finished second at the 1972 Olympics but returned to the top step of the podium two years later,

winning his first European title.



Vladimir Goubnichiy during a 1959 race (left) and hitting the finish line (right) just ahead of Jose Pedraza for gold at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

I first saw Vladimir from the stands at the 1959 US-USSR meet in Philadelphia and was duly impressed as he moved strongly back into the Stadium, looking fresh despite conditions of heat and humidity that had other walkers and 10,000 meter runners practically on their hands and knees. His strong, impeccable style impressed me, then a neophyte walker. I would like to say I competed against Golubnichiy twice, but the best I can say is that I was in the same race with him twice—the Tokyo Olympics and the 1967 World Cup in Bad Saarow, East Germany. He was a fierce competitor, a gentlemen, and a true sportsman. And he feasted on what appeared a whole chicken for breakfast a few hours before the Bad Saarow race—I peeked into the room where the Soviets were eating. He was second to his teammate, Nikolai Smaga, in that race, in which Ron Laird did compete with him, taking the bronze. And Ron, incidentally, was in four of the five Golubnichiy Olympics, missing only in 1972.

Don Jacobs

Our racewalking circle is now missing one gentle soul who expressed love for our sport throughout his life. Martin Rudow provides the following eulogy for Don Jacobs:

In memory of Don Jacobs

Long-time racewalker and certified Track & Field nut Don "Jake" Jacobs passed away in late July at age 93. He had been living at the Willapa Harbor Care Center in Raymond, WA. Don grew up in Elma, WA and later worked for the Tigard School District at the Tuallatin Jr High School. Don served in the US Army Artillery in the South Pacific in WWII. He was a high school and college sprinter, hurdler and half-miler and began race-walking in 1956. He

developed a passion for the sport of race walking and continued competing until the late 1990s. Over the years, he raced against the best in competitive walking and at times was ranked among the country's best 50K walkers. Don even traveled to England to compete in the prestigious "Outer Circle" walking event. After retiring, Don moved to Naselle, WA. He is survived by his companion of 30 years, Diane.

The summary of a man's life like this tells only a small fraction of the story. Don was one of the *true* track nuts. He collected material on track meets and athletes compulsively, traveled to many meets in the sport's Golden Era of the 1960s, and was knowledgeable about the sport locally and internationally. A famous story by those who knew Don was at a gathering at his apartment after a walking event, Dean Ingram found a stack of *Track & Field News* in Don's refrigerator! There was no space elsewhere in the small apartment to store them. He shared news items with the leading track and field publications including *Track & Field News* (where for many years he was listed as a senior contributor) and the early *Runner's World*. A kind and generous man, Don was liked by all who knew him.

"Half way is no way for Marty in 1968"

That newspaper headline (with a handwritten note from Don) meant a lot to me. While it was referring to high school runner Marty Liquori, who hoped to make the 1968 Olympic Team, "Marty" was also my name. And I was also hoping, despite all odds, to make that same team. My friend Don Jacobs sent me that headline with his weekly batch of newspaper clippings, event programs, and other track-and-field related material. Since I had entered the Army in May of 1966 Don had often sent me packets of such material, but when I went to Viet Nam in January of 1967 he started sending them weekly. They were an important and an emotional link to the life I had left when I entered the Army and hoped to resume when I returned.

I first met Don in July of 1962 at the National 35K Championships in Seattle, where he beat me soundly on a hot day. Don scored a few more national medals in his career and continued racing in master's competition well into his 80s. I'll never forget him and his kindness to me in my darkest days.

I sent the following note back to Martin:

Don was a long-time subscriber to the ORW—probably back to its earliest days, though I have no records to show just when he first subscribed and his subscription currently runs through March 3, 2013. But beyond that, your mention of his great love for track and field reminded me of something I had forgotten—I first knew him or knew of him as TN Don Jacobs.

On July 1, 1954, *Track & Field News* launched a trial subsidiary publication *Track Newsletter*. Initial subscribers were accepted as member of *Track Nuts of the World*, Uninc. and forever known as *Track Nuts*. The first group of TN's included both Jack Mortland (me) and Don Jacobs. I still carry my official membership card in my billfold. The newsletter always carried a section of comments and both Don and I were frequent commentators. I was then about to enter my sophomore year at Bowling Green State University. So, although I knew Don through racewalking and his communications to me regarding events in the great Northwest, as soon as I saw your tribute, I thought, "Of course—TN Don Jacobs" an association I'm not sure I ever made before.

I immediately went back to my musty file of *Track Newsletters* and found that his first published comment came in Vol. 1, No. 6, Oct. 7, 1964. He said: "I wonder if everyone is not selling Whitfield short in the 800, because it seems to me he runs to win no matter how fast the race is so these foreign speed demons won't have it all their way. . . Down at Pasadena this summer I saw TN's H.D. Thoreau, Dick Bank, and Don Potts and we had quite a visit. I have seen two meets at Muir and each time the javelin record has gone by the boards, first Held, then Miller." If the names Thoreau, Bank, and Potts ring any bells with you, you know that Don and

I were in distinguished company, T&F wise.

My own first *Track Newsletter* comment was in Vol 1, No.2 as part of a list of "Watch out for"—"Glenn Davis of Barberton, Ohio who has done 9.9.21.4, 52.0, 14.7, 19.1 (180 lows), 23'-1/4, and 6 ft." I also found this comment from TN Mortland in Vol. 1, No.8: "Ohio State is going to field a cross country team again this year. Larry Snyder wanted a boy from Worthington, Ohio, Jack Blackburn, who won the state H.S. C.C. meet and took third in the mile, but he wouldn't go unless they had cross country." I knew Jack, but not well, from high school when we were both at Columbus suburban schools, with me a year ahead of him. Four years later, while in grad school at OSU and working out with the track team, I got to know him much better and our racewalking odyssey began. And out of that, at Jack's urging, the ORW was born.

One further note, Martin suggested that Don was ranked as one of the country's best 50 Km walkers at one time. Well, not quite, but he liked to participate in the longer races. He generally got to Nationals on the West Coast and participated in 21 of these races between 1959 and 1978 (there may have been others earlier, but I have no record of them), all at 20 Km or longer and all in Seattle, San Francisco, or Los Angeles. He walked in two 20s and four 25s, with all the rest at 30 Km or longer. In his three 50 Km Nationals, his best time was 5:59:50 at Seattle in 1968. A 3:12:43 for 30 Km in 1962 in L.A. was probably his best performance. Not great, but he was enthusiastic about what he was doing and gave it his best. and enjoyed very much being part of the sport.

Erich Cordero came onto the U.S. racewalking scene seemingly from nowhere to walk 4:28:57 at Valley Cottage, N.Y. last October. That qualified him for the Olympic Trials in January where he walked 4:28:03 for fifth place. While he didn't make the Olympic team he did qualify to represent the U.S. in the World Cup in May. The following article, which appeared in the *Miami Herald* on May 12 tells his very interesting story.

Racewalking Is No Walk In the Park

Erich Cordero is a long shot for a medal this weekend at the IAAF World Racewalking Cup in Saransk, Russia. And he fell short of qualifying for the Olympics in London with a fifth-place finish in the 50 Km at the U.S. Olympic Trials.

But considering Cordero's arduous journey, it is remarkable that he finds himself among America's elite racewalkers at this stage of his life. If there were a medal for perseverance, the 36-year-old Pompano Beach resident surely would contend for the gold.

Cordero was once Cuba's most promising racewalker, and he dreamed of taking on the world at the Olympic Games. His best time was 4:01, and the current Olympic qualifying standard is 3:59. But he wanted more than sports trophies out of life. He wanted freedom.

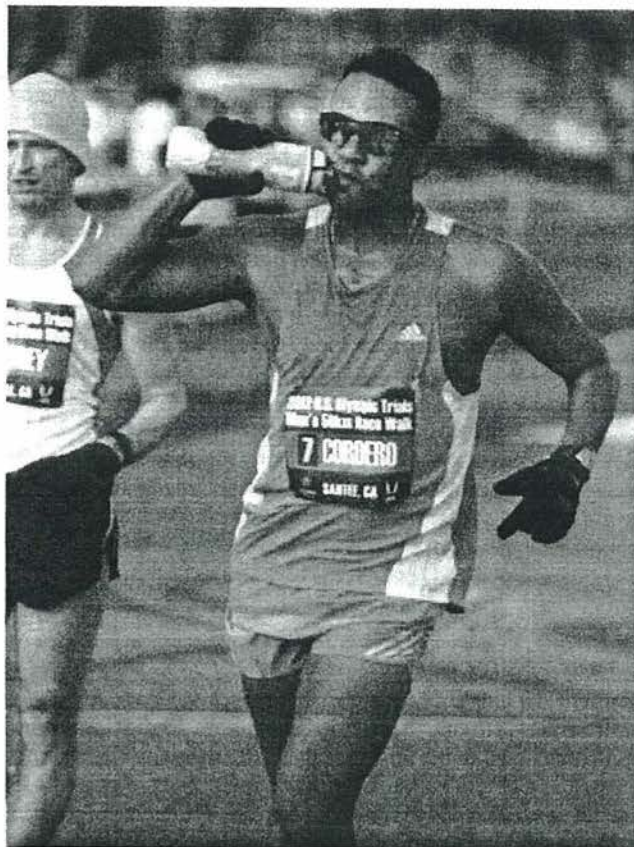
So, 12 years ago, while competing for Cuba at the 2000 Pan American Racewalking Cup in Poza Rica, Mexico, he deserted the Cuban team, made his way to the U.S. border, and sought political asylum. He left his parents and older brother behind in Pinar de Rio, Cuba, and hasn't seen them since.

His aunt and grandmother lived in Miami, so they took him in. He was 24 at the time, and naively figured that the U.S. Olympic Committee or a prominent track club would sponsor him and pay for his training, as the Cuban government had done since he was 9. The only minimal aid he got came from the Shore Athletic Club of New Jersey and its founder, Elliott Denman, an Olympic racewalker and track and field journalist who was touched by Cordero's courage.

"Elliott was very nice to me and helped lift my spirits, but reality hit me very quickly that nobody was going to pay my bills for me over here," Cordero said by phone, before

heading for Russia. "You have to earn everything here. I had to support myself and get a job like everyone else."

He stopped training, began working as a valet parking attendant, and gained weight. A lot of weight. "I ballooned from 165 to 225 pounds, and I grew a few inches, too," he said. "I guess the food here, the vegetables, all the vitamins; it made me grow taller even though I was already in my 20s."



Jeff Salvage / www.racewalk.com

Erich Cordero

Cordero eventually got a job with a pompano Beach wholesale pharmaceutical company called AC National Pharmacy. He has since become part owner. He became a U.S. citizen three years ago, settled in to his work and figured he would never step on a track again. Eight months go, while watching a track meet on TV, Cordero got nostalgic.

"They showed racewalking and I realized how much I missed it, and how I never fulfilled my goals," Cordero said. "I got a crazy idea to start training again after 12 years, to get my out-of-shape body back to how it used to be. I wanted to challenge myself."

He began setting his alarm clock for 4 a.m., and by 4:30, he was walking or hitting the weights. He typically works out for three hours before work, is in the office from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and then heads to the Aventura Mall, where he parks his car and walks on the nearby trails for 2 or 3 hours. He often works out with his good friend Yandy Alvarez, another former Cuban racewalker who defected and lives in South Florida. Alvarez also qualified for the

Olympic Trials, but injured a knee and didn't finish.

Over the past 8 months, Cordero slimmed down 55 pounds to 170 and shaved his time down to the 4:28 range—an 8:38-per-mile pace. "People who don't know the sport don't realize how amazing it is what Erich has done," Denman said. "To take 12 years off and then come back and in eight months reach this level all by himself is a really incredible story. All the credit to him. He did it all alone, mastered the technique, with no help."

Referring to the Trials, Cordero said: "I was really close, but not quite enough. It was disappointing. But it felt so good to be back out there again, competing. And I can't even explain the emotion I have heading to Russia to compete as a U.S. citizen for the U.S. team in my USA uniform. It is overwhelming. This will be the most important meet of my life. (Unfortunately, he was unable to finish the race after going through the first 20 in 1:45.)"

"When I first got back into it, I would get really tired, but now, I walk 30 Km and it's like strolling through a shopping mall for me," he said. "I feel totally comfortable again. My goal is to keep competing for the U.S. and make the next Olympics. I'll never know how good I could have been if I hadn't gone through everything and retired. Now, I get a second chance, and I'm going to take it as far as I can."

U.S. Women's 50 Km List

compiled by Dave Talcott

1. 4:33:23 Erin Taylor-Talcott, Santee, Cal., 1/2/12
2. 4:39:45 Susan Armenta, Chula Vista, Cal. 2/17/02
- 4:41:36 Taylor-Talcott, Asbury Park, N.J. 9/11/11
- 4:49:57 Armenta, Manassas, Va. 1/23/11
- 4:57:11 Taylor-Talcott, Surprise, Ariz 2/7/10
- 5:11:04 Taylor-Talcott, Tustin, Cal. 1/23/11
3. 5:12:56 Cheryl Rellinger, Hauppauge, N.Y. 1/10/02
4. 5:16:20 Tamara Stevenson, Houston, Texas 1/7/12
5. 5:17:22 Jeanne Bocci, San Francisco, Cal. 8/26/79
6. 5:19:34 Sherry Brosnahan, Manassas, Vir. 3/31/01
7. 5:19:52 Kathryn Grimes, Houston, Texas 1/7/12
- 5:20:37 Kathryn Grimes, Tustin, Cal. 1/23/11
- 5:21:51 Sherry Brosnahan, Ocean Twp., N.J. 9/2/02
8. 5:25:18 Daniela Harabedian, Atlanta, Georgia 4/8/90
9. 5:26:30 Beverly LaVeck, Seattle, Wash. 6/7/81
- 5:27:28 Beverly LaVeck, Monterey, Cal. 5/21/83
10. 5:29:04 Anne Vanderhoff, Seattle, Wash. 2/10/80
11. 5:34:12 Heidi Hauch, Clermont, Fla. 2/12/06
12. 5:43:26 Jill Latham, Atlanta, Georgia 4/9/90
13. 5:44:23 Diane Mendoza, Monterey, Cal. 5/21/83
14. 5:47:35 Dorit Attias, Clermont, Fla. 2/23/05
15. 5:47:56 June MacDonald, Detroit, Mich. 9/10/78
16. 5:56:32 Monetta Robverts, Manassas, Vir. 1/31/01
17. 5:56:40 Jennifer Marlborough, Hauppauge, N.Y. 10/10/03
18. 6:15:23 Jeanne Dorton, Manassas, Vir. 1/31/01
19. 6:15:48 Lo-An Flettreich, New York, N.Y. 5/12/85
20. 6:21:01 Karen Karavanic, Chula Vista, Cal. 1/28/07
21. 6:22:04 Lida Askew, Houston, Texas 11/26/77
22. 6:25:44 Darlene Backlund, Ocean Twp., N.J. 9/12/10
23. 6:31:52 Cathy Mayfield, Houston, Texas 1/6/08
24. 6:33:57 Dora Choi, Chula Vista, Cal. 9/13/09

25. 6:43:25 Ann Marie Bruning, Chula Vista, 1/28/07
(Dave's list goes through 33 performers, apparently covering every women's 50 Km that he has been able to uncover. I am stopping at 25 and have not included multiple performances beyond the top ten performers. For the complete list, or to register any additions, you can contact Dave at dave.talcott@yahoo.com or at 566 Mclean, Owego, NY 13827.

LOOKING BACK

50 Years Ago (From the September 1962 American Race Walker, published by Chris McCarthy in Chicago)—On Detroit's fabulous Belle Isle, on a course later measured to be at least 600 yards long, John Allen won the National 15 Km title in 1:16:07, beating Ron Laird by 16 seconds. Canada's Alex Oakley was third and young Ron Daniel of the New York AC upset the Ohio Track Club's dynamic duo of Jack Mortland and Jack Blackburn for fourth. Laird and Daniel led the NYAC to the team title over the Ohio TC. Future star Goetz Klopfer was 11th. Marty Wright, then my fiancée and by June of the following year Mrs. Mortland, was not particularly excited in witnessing her first walking race. . . Bob Bowman, later to become IAAF Racewalk Chairman, then a fledgling competitor, won a 2 miler in Venice Cal. in 16:19. . . Daniel was the publication's Pedestrian of the Month. The NYAC athlete was born in Miami, but was then living in Port Washington, N.Y. At that early point in his career, he had best times of 6:59.9 for a mile, 51:00 for 10 Km, 1:14:57 for 15 Km, and 3:44:35 for 40 Km. He went on to International status a few years down the line and is now an international judge

45 Years Ago (From the September 1967 ORW)—Ron Laird won the National 15 Km in Berwick, Pa. with a 1:08:13, leaving Steve Hayden 3 ½ minutes in arrears. Jack Blackburn was a strong third. The first U.S. 100 miler of the 20th century was held on the track in Columbia, Missouri and Montana's 60-year-old Larry O'Neil broke the long-standing record with a 19:24:52, walking an amazingly even pace throughout the race. Over the next 10 years, Larry completed five more centuries.

40 Years Ago (From the September 1972 ORW)—At the Munich Olympics, East Germany's Peter Frenkel won at 20 Km in 1:26:42 and West Germany's Bernd Kannenberg captured the 50 in 3:56:12. Vladimir Glubnichy, USSR took the silver at 20 his fourth Olympic medal at the distance, golds in 1960 and 1968, bronze in 1964. Hans-Georg Reimann and Gerhard Sperling completed a near sweep for East Germany in the 20, with their third and fourth place finishes and the USSR's Veniamin Soldatenko took the silver 50. For the U.S. Larry Young was brilliant with a 10th place finish at 20 preceding his second bronze medal performance in the 50. He missed the 4-hour mark by just 46 seconds. In the 20, Tom Dooley was 15th and Goetz Klopfer 19th. At 50, Bill Weigle took 17th and Steve Hayden 27th.

35 Years Ago (From the September 1977 ORW)—Mexican walkers finished one-two at both 20 and 50 to score a decisive team victory in the World Cup, held in England. The 20 went to Daniel Bautista in 1:24:03 with Domingo Colin second and East Germany's Karl-Heinz Stadtmüller third. Raul Gonzalez won the 50 in a rather slow 4:04:20, 35 seconds ahead of Pedro Aroche. Gonzalez went through the first 20 in 1:29:50, an unheard of pace at the time, and paid the price but survived with the gold. In the 50, a sub par Larry Young was 13th in 4:19:56, just 10 seconds ahead of Augie Hirt, who had a personal best. A hamstring injury had hampered Young's training. . . San Diego's Paul Hendricks, with only a year of racewalking experience, won the Columbia 100-miler in 19:45:17, 22 minutes ahead of Leonard Busen, who took an hour-and-a-half off his previous best. There were a record eight finishers within the 24-hour limit.

30 Years Ago (From the September 1982 ORW)—The U.S. finished ahead of Great Britain and Norway, but behind West Germany and Sweden in a five-team international match. Sweden's Bo Gustavsson won the 50 in 3:53:22 with Marco Evoniuk second for the U.S. in 4:03:13. Germany's Josef Weber won the 20 in 1:24:46 and Jim Heiring walked 1:25:32 in third and Ray Sharp 1:26:48 in fourth. . . U.S. Sports Festival titles went to Heiring at 20 in 1:28:19 and Ray Somers at 50 in 4:37:50. . . Jose Marin of Spain walked a brilliant double in the European Championships, winning the 20 in 1:23:43 and coming back three days later to take a silver at 50 in 3:59:19. Finland's Reina Salonen won that one in 3:55:29 and Gustavsson edged Hartwin Gauder, GDR, for third. Czechs Josef Pribilinec and Pavol Blazek took silver and bronze at 20.

25 Years Ago (From the September 1987 ORW)—Italy's Mauricio Damilano won at 20 in the World Championships in Rome, defying high heat and humidity to record 1:20:45. He controlled the pace throughout to beat Josef Pribilinec by 22 seconds with Spain's Jose Marin third. Tim Lewis was the first U.S. finisher with a 1:26:00 in 19th. The Women's 10 Km went to Irina Strakhova, USSR, in 44:12, 11 seconds ahead of Australia's Kerry Saxby. Hong Yan of China was third. Lynn Weik led the US. with 46:51 in 15th. Debbi Lawrence was 40 seconds and five places further back. . . Just as they had earlier in the year at the World Cup in New Yprk, the GDR's Hartwig Gauder and Ronald Weigel finished one-two in the 50, but switched positions as Gauder took gold in 3:40:53 ahead of Weigel's 3:41:30. Vyacheslav Ivanenko, USSR, was third in 3:44:02. Carl Schueler was 16th in 3:57:09 and Marco Evoniuk 17th in 3:57:43. Jim Heiring had a personal best of 4:03:24 in 22nd, easily the most distinguished showing the U.S. team had ever made at 50 Km.

15 Years Ago (From the September 1997 ORW)—Curt Clausen won National titles at both 5 and 40 Km. At the 5 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on August 24, he scored an easy win in 20:33. In the 40, two weeks later at Fort Monmouth, N.J., he was virtually unopposed winning in 3:16:42. In the 5, Jonathan Mathews, tough as ever at 41, was second in 20:54 and Dave McGovern third in 21:27. Debbi Lawrence won the women's 5 in 22:39, 15 seconds ahead of Joanne Dow, with Victoria Herazo third. In the 40, Ohio's Chris Knotts, also still going strong at 41, was second in 3:46:17 with John Soucheck third in 3:50:03.

10 Years Ago (From the August 2002 ORW)—Once again, Nationals were held at both 40 and 5 Km. Tim Seaman broke Carl Schueler's at 40 by more than 7 minutes as he won the 40 in a blazing 4:06:17. Philip Dun was just 2:34 back in second with Curt Clausen third in 3:12:23, still under Schueler's record. Al Heppner had 3:27:48 in fourth. Susan Armenta easily won the women's title, finishing fifth overall in 3:32:08, 40 minutes ahead of Erin Taylor (now Taylor-Talcott the proud holder of the U.S. women's 50 Km record, a record she wrested from Ms. Armenta earlier this year.). . . Heppner won the National 5 in 21:51 with Ian Whatley second in 22:36. The women's title went to Marcia Gustsche in 25:53 with Victoria Herazo second in 26:47.

5 Years Ago (From the August 2007 ORW)—In the World Championships Russia's Olga Kaniskina won at 20 Km and Australia's Nathan Deakes at 50 (The men's 20 had been reported in the August issue of the ORW.) Kaniskina built an early lead, although her pace wasn't particularly fast, and coasted to victory in 1:30:09, 33 seconds ahead of teammate Tatyana Shemyakina. Spain's Maria Vasco was another 5 seconds back to win the bronze, well clear of Norway's Kjersti Platzer. Deakes also walked virtually by himself after opening a 7 second lead over the first 20 and finished 29 seconds ahead of France's Yohann Diniz in 3:43:53. Diniz had trailed by 16 seconds at 30 and 39 seconds at 40. Italy's Alex Schwazer in ird gained 96 seconds on Deakes over the final 10, but was still 45 seconds back at the finish. . . Ray Sharp notched his seventeenth national title as he won at 40 Km in 3:27:59, just 28 seconds slower than he had walked in winning the same race in 1982 at age 22. John Soucheck was nearly 18 minutes back in second with Steve Pecinovsky and Ian Whatley also sneaking under 4 hours in fourth and fifth.