



At the start, British expatriate Peter Fullager moved quickly into a sizeable lead. Fullager has been living in Switzerland for several months but was named to the British team off his performances there and his consistent record in the past. Ron Laird dropped right into second but could not match the early pace of Fullager. The only others to stay very close were Nikolai Smaga and Vladimir Golubnitschy, 1960 Olympic gold medalist of the USSR. The reason no one was too close became evident when Fullager finished the first lap (5 km) in 21:21; about 6:50 miles. The next three were less than half a minute back, but it was nearly a minute back to Peter Frankel, E.G. and Solodov in fifth place. A pace like this can spread out the field in a big hurry.

Fullager couldn't hold this sort of pace, and by 10 km was in fourth, nearly a minute back, with Laird and the Russians neck and neck for the lead in 43:54. Making a big move during this lap was the tall, blond German Gerhard Sperling. After biding his time with a 22:42 first lap for 12th place he accelerated to 22:28 on his second lap and moved to ~~12th~~ seventh. Solodov was even with Fullager for fourth at this time as the Russians were putting in a strong team bid.

Laird got a warning shortly thereafter and the Russians immediately spurred to take advantage of it. At 15 kilo (1:06:03) they were only eight seconds up, but Ron was helpless to try and match them with the one call. He looked extremely strong right to the finish and felt he would have had no trouble staying with them. Smaga won in 1:28:38.4 with Golubnitschy 20 seconds back but actually looking stronger at the finish. Laird was still close in 1:29:12.6 on a course that has been accurately measured. There is no doubt that he walked 20 kilometers this time. Meanwhile, Sperling continued his move getting into fifth on the third lap, again with a faster lap than the previous one (22:23) and although slowing somewhat, catching teammate Frankel on the last lap for fourth place. Fullager hung on quite well after his big burst and was a very solid sixth.

Back in the pack, Tom Dooley started slowly but walked very consistent laps and moved from 20th to 16th on the last lap, actually in the last 1/2 or 3/4 of a mile. His 1:37:21.4 is not far off his best and next to Laird he came closest to doing what might have been expected of him. There is no doubt that Tom is going to be a very tough man to beat at any distance for the next few years. This trip probably didn't do anything but make him hungrier. Jack Mortland led Dooley for the first two miles and then had a white warning flag thrown in his face. However, a look at his lap times indicates that this wasn't really a factor as a warning doesn't cause one to slow up by nearly a minute a lap throughout the race. He eventually finished 22nd in 1:42:13.6, saved from crossing the line last by the collapse of his old friend Solodov. I guess that's what buddies are for.

After this race, the East Germans were 7 points ahead of England and 9 ahead of the USSR. Knowing their strength in the 50, there appeared little chance for anyone to catch them. The results were as follows:

1. N. Smaga, USSR 1:28:38.4
2. V. Golubnitschy, USSR 1:28:58
3. Ron Laird, USA 1:29:12.6
4. Gerhard Sperling, E.G. 1:30:14.4
5. Peter Frankel, EG 1:30:29.6
6. P. Fullager, GB 1:31:33.4
7. H. Pathus, EG 1:33:06.4
8. J. Webb, GB 1:33:06.4
9. R. Wallwork, GB 1:45:53.2
10. J. Muller, WG 1:34:59.8
11. B. Nermerich, WG 1:35:36.8
12. A. Soderland, Swe. 1:36:02 (42 yrs. old)
13. K. Pape, WG 1:36:05.8
14. I. Gori, Hung. 1:36:08.4
15. P. Busca, Italy 1:36:21.4
16. T. Dooley, USA 1:37:21.4
17. J. Dalmati, H. 1:37:52.4
18. Antar Antal, H. 1:38:02.2
19. O. Andersson, Swed 1:38:14.6
20. C. Nigro, Italy 1:40:48
21. I. Hansson, Sed. 1:41:36.8
22. J. Mortland, USA 1:42:13.6
23. G. Solodov, USSR 1:48:23.2
- DNF N. DeVito, Italy

50 KILOMETER. The Russians set out in this race with a lot of determination and came through the first lap with three of the first four ~~top~~ places. Only East German Christoph Hohne was challenging closely at this time as he, Alexander Schtscherbina and Igor Della Rossa clocked 23:59. By 10 Km, England's Shaun Lightman had moved to the front in 48 :24, but he didn't look comfortable and Hohne and Sch.. were right there with them. (I'm not going to spell that name out all the way through here.) Della Rossa and the third Russian, Sergei Bondarenko were less than ten seconds back as the Soviets were out to take the Cup. Biding their time together in eight place (49:59) were a couple of sleeping giants, Peter Selzer and Kurt Sakowski, E.G. Sakowski is 34 and a carry veteran of many International races. Selzer, only 21, was letting the veteran be his guide.

By 20 km, Hohne and Sch.. were starting to leave the field with a 1:37:37. Lightman, DellaRossa, and Bondarenko were still together in 1:38:54 and D.J. Thompson was sixth in 1:40:42. Selzer and Sakowski were only four seconds back of him as they started to pick up one man per lap. The two leaders stayed right together with 2:02:51 at 25 and 2:28:14 at 30. Sakowski and Selzer moved to sixth at 25 to fifth at 30, and then cheated by jumping two places during the next five km.

By 40 kilometers Hohne and Sch.. had 3:19:08, but the German was still looking fresh and the Russian struggling. From there it was no contest. Hohne picked up two minutes on the ninth lap and another two on the tenth to finish in 4:09:09. Meanwhile, young Selzer pulled slightly ahead of his countryman on the ninth lap and then walked an almost unbelievable 23:48.6 for the last lap to finish well ahead of the sagging Sch.. for second place. Sakowski finished strongly himself and was closing fast on the Russian at the finish. The style of all three German walkers was a beautiful thing to watch and they all looked as good at the finish as at the start. Watching them was well worth the trip over and really inspiring. I will have something to say about their training in a future issue. But how can a 21-year-old kid do 7:40 miles for the last three miles of a fast 50 Km? Really fantastic!

Meanwhile, everyone but these first three lost a lot of time over the last few laps. Stig Lindberg of Sweden did make a strong move through the field though. He was 15th at 15 km. and 13th at 20. By 25 he had moved to 10th and stayed there until 40. He then picked up three more in the last two laps to finish seventh, just half-a-minute back of Thompson. The Americans, unfortunately, tended to move the other way. Larry Young undoubtedly went out to fast, particularly considering the tiring travel and the fact that he was a little short on conditioning. Figuring the trip would never come off, Larry had taken the opportunity after returning from Europe to get a little rest before a big push for next year. So he was not in the shape that he had been earlier in the summer. Anyway, Larry was sixth at 10 km (49:26) and 11th at 25 (2:11:03) before the roof caved in for him. It is too his credit that he finished, <sup>since</sup> dropping way back as he did when you are expecting better things can be very discouraging. He finally finished 22nd in 5:06:08.

Goetz Klopfer hung on longer than Larry did, but also had a bad time of it at the end. Goetz started a little more discretely than Larry and was three minutes slower at 15 Km. However, by 25 kilo he had moved up to 13th in 2:11:47. He caught two more in the next lap and held 11th place through 40 km. At that point he had a 3:36:43 and a shot at a real good time and place. However, that was it as he took 35 minutes for each of his last two laps and wound up 17th in 4:46:41.6. Incidentally, the weather was good for distance as long as one kept strong -- cool and rainy. But when these guys started to slow down, you could see them freeze up. Mostly, though, they just hadn't had enough rest for three days to go for 31 miles.

Jim Clinton made his first International effort a respectable one with a 4:57:07. for 20th place. He was 18th at 10 km, but walked in ~~3rd~~ 21-23 place most of the time, getting into 20th at 40 km and holding it. On the way he had his best competitive 20 km of 1:49:20 and held on fairly well to 40 km in 3:51:51. He then went the way of the other two, but not so badly. Our fastest man over the last 10 km. If Jim ever gets the time to put in a year of constant training he will go a lot faster. Right now he is extremely consistent around 4:55 with very limited training.

Final results of the race: 1. C. Hohne, EG 4:09:09 2. P. Selzer EG 4:11:39.6 3. A. Schtscherbina, USSR 4:13:07 4. K. Sakowski, EG 4:13:51.8 5. S. Bondarenko, USSR 4:21:51.8 6. D. Thompson, GB 4:25:21 7. S. Lindberg, Swed. 4:28:52.8 8. R. Middleton, GB 4:29:23 9. S. Lightman, GB 4:31:23.8 10. I. DellaRossa, USSR 4:31:27.4 11. I. Havasi, Hung 4:33:01 12. G. Weidner, WG 4:25:24.4 13. H. Mag-nor, WG 4:36:52.6 14. M. Sjolholm, Swed 4:40:21 15. S. Mancini, Italy 4:41:25.6 16. A. DeGaetano, Italy 4:41:48.8 17. G. Klopfer, USA 4:46:41.6 18. W. Hupfeld, WG 4:50:45.8 19. L. DeRosso, Italy 4:51:50 20. ~~John Kelly~~ J. Clinton, USA 4:57:07 21. J. Szabo, Hung 5:02:52.4 22. L Young, USA 5:06:08 23. T. Balajcz, Hung 5:18:04.8 DNF S. Ingvarsson, Swed (30 Km.)

Team Scores:(Winner scores points equalling the number of competitors plus one. In this case 25. Second place scores two less, i.e. 23, third place three less, and so on.) East Germany—128, USSR—107, Great Britain—104, West Germany—75, Sweden—52, USA—50, Hungary—46, Italy—40.

# Local Boy (man) Makes Good

Mexico City, October 21 — While on the subject of International races, lets turn or attention to the altitude of Mexico City. As stated above, several of the top Europeans were there for the 20 km walk, but they were no match for local hero Jose Pedraza. Pedraza was in a slight lead at 5 km. and started to pull away from that point to beat runnerup Hans Meimann by over a minute with an excellent 1:34:22. Defending European Champion Dieter Lin'ner could no better than eighth. The two Americans who made the trip evidently suffered from the altitude. Bill Ranney was 13th in 1:45:56.4 and John Kelly 14th in 1:52:09.8. We haven't heard anything about Bill's impressions yet but do have some word from John via Charlie Silcock, as follows: "The top level organizers did a fine job. I was met at the air-ort and stayed in a nice hotel. The transportati n was good and I enjoyed the hospita- lity. Some of the organization at the lower levels could use some improvement, however.

"The Italians and the Russians had been in Mexico City for a month and the Jap- anese arrived about 15 days before the walk. One example of the altitude adjust- ment problem was that the Yugoslav water polo team was sick for of the first week they were there. They got better the next week and were OK the third week. Most everyone down here felt that it takes 2 to 3 weeks to become properly acclimated. The 3rd day is the worst for some reason. Some teams lay off completely that 3rd day.

"In the 20 km walk there were 16 competitors and 11 judges. The head judge was from England, with one Russian, Joe Tigerman from the USA, and most of the rest were Mexicans serving as judges. The Mexican Army was lined up along the edges of the road. We went out a distance and made about 6 laps on a loop and then returned to the starting area. There were quite a few spectators as we returned from the loop part of the course.

"When I would try to push myself in the race, I would get dizzy with a fainting feeling. I had difficulty breathing and my knees were very weak. After the race I was very sick to my stomach and giddy and dizzy." (John had to pay his own way in order to get sick, too.) The results of the race:

- 1. J. Pedraza, Mexico 1:34:22.0 (23:48, 48:54.4, 70:15.8)
- 2. H. Reimann, EG 1:35:36.2 (23:50, 47:20, 70:47)
- 3. G. Agapov, USSR 1:36:02.4 (23:53, 47:20, 1:36:02)
- 4. A. Kiss, Hung. 1:36:17.4
- 5. K. Saito, Jap. 1:36:34.4
- 6. A. Pamich, Italy 1:36:39.4
- 7. V. Visini, Italy 1:37:55.0
- 8. D. Lindner, EG 1:38:32
- 9. V. Soldatenko, USSR 1:40:28.8
- 10. A. Bilek, Czech 1:41:08
- 11. E. Campos, Mex. 1:41:41
- 12. P. Colin, Mex. 1:45:08
- 13. B. Ranney, USA 1:45:56.4
- 14. J. Kelly, USA 1:52:09.8
- 15. L. Salmeron, Mex. 1:52:09.8
- 16. M. Llanos, Mex. no time

Now that I have that all typed up, comes in the mail today the word from Ranney -- again via newlywed Chas. Silcock. Bill's results differ somewhat and they appear to be more official, so we will accept them. Everything is okay through Lindner. From there we have: 9. Soldatenko 1:40:38.8 10. Campos 1:41:32 11. Ranney 1:42:06 12. Colin 1:45:08 13. Kelly, 1:49:12 14. Salmeron 1:56:59.2 15. Gori, Hung. 1:59:12.6. Bilek was disqualified. May as well give you a few of Bill's comments too:

- Johnny Kelly is a real trouper. He really worked hard to finish for USA
- Mexican government did much to make the trip enjoyable. Cabs from the airport, translators everywhere, free food and drinks at the Stadium.
- Food at the hotel was not bad. We ate everything they offered at the hotel and little incidence of sickness.
- Contrary to reports regarding last years course, altitude seemed to bother everybody to some degree. Even those who had 3-4 weeks seemed to be bothered some.
- Officials said last year's course was 700 meters short, and they lengthened it. Pedraza etal felt it is now too long (400-600 yards). I can't say.
- Course is almost all on hills, rather gradual, but all up and down.
- Judging was good -- where they were. But they stuck together mostly on the uphill sections. Saw some pretty good running on the down hill.
- Most walkers showed very good style, esp. Russians, E. Germans, Italians.
- \* On results -- I was about 100 yards behind Campos. Actually I was ahead of him until he ran by with about 600 yards to go! -- One person between Kelly and me. -- I have a picture of the start showing 18 people. Don't know what happened to the other one. -- Gori is a real surprise. Didn't even know he was there. Especially behind Kelly. (Editor: From what I have read about the meet down there, he may not have been. Supposedly the announcer let people know Matson was up in the discus when he was back home in Texas and other such gems as that. If you have a sneaky looking little guy with glasses in your picture, Gori was there. If not, he wasn't.)
- John and I thought our times were some slower than the attached sheet but guess we were wrong.
- If you saw ~~me~~ on TV you could tell we were both gassed! The altitude training is a must How about the trials at 7000 feet?
- A real shame that the US sent some people - full expense - and left Laird home. He is obviously a potential medal winner and really could have used the experience at 7400 feet. Too bad!!

(Editor: Don't feel too sorry for Ron. He is talking seriously about locating in Mexico City for the next year so he can really be ready. He was entered and talked about going but evidently thought better of it. And he proved himself in Bad Saarow, so the best he could have done was hurt his record due to a let down after that one.)

1:59:18 / 25 Kilo to Laird

Seattle, Sept. 30 — Gee, let's turn to the domestic scene. But when we do, there's that name — Ron Laird — again. The monster added another title in the Senior 25 kilometer with a sparkling 1:59:18, better than seven minutes ahead of second place Goetz Klopfer. Klopfer led the Athens A.C. to the team title as teammates Bill Ranney and Jim Lopes came third and fourth. The ORW style award went to Karl Johansen in sixth. Laird has been copping these quite frequently too, so at least he got stopped there.

The race was held on an 880 yard stretch of blacktop at Green Lake with a back and forth lap. A slight hill of about fifty yards at one end but the rest was flat. Laird set a very fast pace, trying to throw off the opposition early. He had 7:12, 14:40, 22:08 and 29:39. However, Klopfer was still less than a minute behind at that point and Ranney was within eight seconds of him. From there the lead started to grow faster as Ron stayed with a 7:30 average through 8 miles (60:01). He was 1:15:35 at 10 and 1:31:28 at 12. He passed 15 in 1:55:15. Klopfer didn't really start to lose Ranney until after 11 miles at which point he was only 18 seconds up. He lengthened this to almost two minutes by the end.

Jim Lopes walked a fine, steady race overhauling Ed Glander just after the 13th mile. Glander was as much as two minutes ahead of him at 9 miles but Lopes accelerated at the same time as Ed started to slow down. Johansen was well out on both of them in the early stages but started to slow way down after six miles. He was passed by Glander at eight miles and by Lopes during the twelfth. The rest of the field was pretty well spread out from the start.

1. Ron Laird 1:59:18 2. Goetz Klopfer 2:06:31 3. Bill Ranney 2:08:19 4. Jim Lopes 2:11:50 5. Ed Glander 2:13:50 6. Karl Johansen 2:16:50 7. George Edwards 2:22:00 8. Scott (I'm sorry, I forget the first name and they aren't on here.) 2:30:06 9. Steve Tyrer 2:32:20 10. Roger Duran 2:42:40 11. Don Jacobs 2:46:50. Thanks to Don Jacobs for the results, including splits.

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25 Kilometer, Atlantic City, October 1, 1967 (No details, results courtesy Ray Leach) 1. Dave Romansky, un. 2:05:16 (Dave is really coming) 2. John Kelly, Millrose AA 2:08:34 3. Ron Daniel, NYAC 2:12:48 4. Paul Schell, NMC 2:13:31 5. Shaul Ladany, NYPC 2:13:38 6. Ron Kulik, NYAC 2:18:51 7. Howie Jacobsen, LIAC 2:19:54 8. Steve Rehman, NMC 2:20:35 9. Bruce MacDonald, NYAC 2:23:20 10. Tony Medeiros, NMC 2:23:54 11. Elliott Derman, Shore AC 2:30:40 12. George Braceland, SJTC 2:31:33 13. Henry Yost, SJTC 2:34:59 14. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Joe Stefanowicz, Phil. AC 2:35:45 15. Don Johnson, Shore AC 2:37:37

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15 Mile, Long Branch, NJ, Oct. 29 — Got this from the NY Times and they were a bit confused. 1. Steve Hayden, LIAC 1:58:48 2. Ron Daniel, NYAC 1:56:56 3. Shaul Ladany, NYPC 1:57:36. Your guess is as good as mine as to whether Hayden's time or the the other two were wrong. They said Steve broke Kulik's course record by 3:77, whatever that means.

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Another result I don't have is a one hour in LA area early in October. All I know is that Walker beat Laird with a distance just under 8 miles.

# Mumbelings From Mort <sup>⑦</sup>

With the AAU convention coming-up shortly and plans for next year being rather important in light of the Olympic site, may I make a few comments. The only thing that appears at all definite at this point is that four high altitude training sites will be set up for the Olympic team beginning September 15. (Olympics start October 12.) The race walkers will be included with a group at Alamosa, Colorado which will also include marathoners, wrestlers, basketball players, and possibly 10,000 meter runners. As I understand it, the plans in track are for earlier trials to select six competitors per event for training at these sites. A final trial will then be held at altitude to pick the three to go to Mexico. This does not necessarily apply to walking however, and the decision as to how trials will be handled will be up to the race walking committee. There is some talk of holding the trials at altitude; Bill Ranney's comment for instance.

My thoughts, for what they might be worth, are this. I think it would be a mistake to hold the trials at altitude in light of the fact that altitude training is in the plans prior to departure for Mexico City. If we must select six initially and then have an altitude trial among these after some acclimation, okay. But the initial selection should be on a basis that is fair to all. Some may have the opportunity to get in varying degrees of altitude training while most have none. For instance, Ron Laird, if he carries out his threat to live in Mexico City would of course be unbeatable. Many say he is anyway, but this isn't the sort of attitude that is going to put them on an Olympic team. No one, Ron Laird included, has a ticket to Mexico City at this time. If you're going to concede to him you must also be conceding to the Smaga's, Hohne's, etal and this is not the attitude Charlie Silcock wants you to have. Anyway, I think the trials should be held at a normal site, but at a time not too far ahead of the proposed training camp dates. And personally, I think three walkers should come from these trials in each event and that's it. The problem with two trials comes particularly in the 50 where you are going to be asking guys to walk two hard races in a few weeks time under less than ideal conditions. This might be okay in the 20, but I don't think you can have two different set ups. As to the exact sites of the trials, this is somewhat irrelevant. There are going to be gripes wherever they are and those that have a chance of making the team will get to them wherever they are.

These are my rather disorganized thoughts, hastily put down. I'm sure many disagree in one way or another. The decision will probably be made at the convention in New Orleans (I think) in early December. If you have any strong thoughts on the subject write Phil Jachelski, Charlie Silcock, or your local representative if you know he going to make the convention. These guys are somewhat in the dark too, and need good constructive advise. Express your opinions now and not after the decision has been made.

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Finally some others have claimed records in the list of track and field records by walkers that we published over a year ago. Bruce MacDonald had a 15.9 for the 120 HH (HS 39 in) and 15.7 for the 120 HH (42 in.). He also has 24.5 for the 220 LH. Ron Laird tossed the javelin 185'6. If we get a few more such marks we will republish the list.

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Other Results:

20 km, sometime during the summer on the Strawberry course, wherever that is.  
1. Bill Ranney 1:38:56 2. Phil Mooers 2:11:11 (hdep race, actual time) 3. Jim Lopes 1:48:17 4. Roger Duran 1:55:11 5. Larrieu (Ron's brother) 2:05:18

Eastern Canadian 20 km, date unknown, Toronto -- 1. Karl Merschenz 1:39:03  
2. Max Gould 1:46:23 (Max is getting quite formidable) 3. Harold Hoffman 1:53:16  
4. Jon Arnett (He was with the Bears the last I knew) 1:56:45 5. Bert Life 1:58:44

10 Km., Varsity Stadium, Toronto, September 23 -- 1. Karl Merschenz 48:08.8  
2. Frank Johnson 52:29.1 3. Jean-Paul Perron 52:50 4. Max Gould 52:57 5. Harold Hoffman 55:54  
6. Bert Life 56:24 7. Joe Levy 56:40 8. Jim Argo 56:42 9. John Argo, Sr. 57:43 10. John Argo, Jr. 61:20

ENGLAND

30th Hastings to Brighton, 38 miles (app) -- 1. Shaun Lightman 5:35:10 2. Don Thompson 5:36:17  
3. B. Eley 5:38:58 4. P. Maidment 5:55:51 5. D. King 5:58:47 6. P. Thorn 5:59:21 38 finishers.

7 Mile, Market Harborough, 13 August (Second race for U.S. Walkers, unreported before, course given as about 400 yards short) 1. Ron Laird 49:16 2. Larry Young 50:04  
3. G. Toone 50:37 4. W. Sutherland 51:19 5. L. Taylor 51:34 6. PL Markham 52:26  
7. A. Baryard 52:31 8. G. Chaplin 53:00

Sorry we are a little late this month. No excuse, sir. But then we have been waiting several years it seems for the next issue of Alan Cook's ARW. We may come a little late sometimes, but by golly, we've hit 32 months in a row now. And its such exciting reading. Will leave the rest of the space for Blackburn to scribble down some results when he gets back from Columbia as this won't get out until then anyway. We will have the full story on that race next month, plus many other exciting features. Say, what ever happened to the 3rd Annual Halloween Handicap? The OTC Distance Carnival will come off though. Don't forget it. November 18 and 19, Rathbone, Ohio!

Laird Takes 30K:10 - 2:29:??

Columbia Mo. Nov. 4 - 30° - Windy + Hilly

- 1. Laird - 2:29:?? N.Y.A.C.
- 2. Blackburn - 2:50:50.5 O.T.C.
- 3. Jacobsen - 2:55:?? Long Island T.C.
- 4. Kulik - 2:57:?? N.Y.A.C.
- 5. Rose - 2:59:?? Kansas T.C.
- 6. Danial - ? N.Y.A.C.
- 7. McDonald - ? N.Y.A.C.
- 8. Palmer - ?
- 9. Bob Youngs - 2:12:??

Bill Clark will supply us with the straight scoop for next month