In the fall of 1967, awed by the great performance of Larry O'Neill in that year's first 100 miler, Jack Blackburn, then publisher of the CRW, and I decided to honor Larry with a special award and to make that award an annual presentation to the athlete who turned in the single outstanding performance for the year. At the same time, we chose to honor Doc Blackburn, who has meant so much to Ohio race walking, by calling it the Dr. John H. Blackburn Award. Obviously, the first award went to Larry O'Neill.

This year, the "walk-away" of the 8th Annual Award is Sue Erdock, with her 24:16.2 world's best 5km in winning the International Championship. Sue thus becomes the first woman to win this prestigious Award. In winning the race, Sue beat former record holder Margrethe Sjogren of Sweden by nearly 40 seconds. Earlier in the year, Sue had firmly established her credentials with a world's best at 10km.

Other former winners of the Award are Rudy Halmaz, 1968; Bob Kitchen, 1969 and 1971; Goetz Klopfer, 1970; Larry Young, 1972; and Ron Laird, 1973. Sue thus joins a rather select group of U.S. walkers. Sue's handsomely engraved plaque will be on the way as soon as we have it made up and ferret out her address.

KORN, HUNTER WIN "B" TITLES

Bob Korn at 10km and Chuck Hunter at 100km have added National AAU "B" titles to their laurels during November. Chuck walked a lonely 100km on the track at Nivot High School in Colorado as the bugaboo of small fields for these "B" races continued. The only other starters were Craig and Rocky Hunter, who went a couple of miles, and Jerry Brown doing an exhibition 15 miles. This should not detract from Chuck's performance as he showed his usual determination to complete the task at hand. With the temperature never over 40 and rain falling throughout the day, Chuck started at 5:30 in the morning and kept at it for 12:46:40 to claim the title. His 10 mile splits were 1:41, 3:33, 5:25, 7:38, and 9:57. The race was held on Nov. 2.

It was also cold and rainy in Portland, Ore., for the 10 km on Nov. 22. Korn easily bested a field of 10 to win in 49:20.6. Rob Frank finished an isolated second as Scott Massinger, who may have been strong competition, nursed a cross-country injury as an official. The results:

1. Bob Korn 49:20.6
2. Rob Frank 51:30
3. Jeff Reynolds 54:44
4. Pete Baiko 56:33
5. Al Schurman 57:59
6. Craig Jones 58:59
7. Dick Arkley 61:27
8. Dean Ingram 62:07
9. Don Jacobs 63:56
10. Mike Sprinker 69:18
Chicago—Sorry I missed this with the other "50" races. Fred Kuhn easily bested the 50-km. Fitzpatrick trick to win the National "50" 35 km in 3:16:59 over field of nine. In an accompanying women's race, Crissy Dotech won in 3:07:50 as the only other starter. Edith Bentley, stopped at 20 km. 1. Fred Kuhn, Green & Gold AC 3:16:59 2. Dan Fitzpatrick, QAC 3:15:00

Kuhn also wins "B" National.

Here are the eagerly awaited "50" World Rankings of the world's race walks of both 50 and 50 kilometers. The rankings are based on performances throughout the year and are a completely subjective opinion of one man—your editor. Consideration is given to best times, performance against other walkers, and the record in major races. However, I have probably given less consideration to the European 20 km Championship than I normally would since the heat and humidity were so much. Two to three and so many top walkers failed to finish. Incidentally, Vladimir Zabolotshik, who finished third in the race, was subsequently disqualified when a drug test proved positive, giving Roger Hill the bronze medal and moving everyone else up a notch. No details on the incident yet, but we don't know if this was some innocent use of medication as with the U.S. swimmer in Munich, or an actual attempt to gain an advantage in any case, Zabolotshik is not ranked since the rest of his record did not merit it. So, here is the way I rank the 20 km.
disqualification or fatigue. Stadtmauller, however, was very convincing in three earlier races. In the London, he tried a world-record pace in hot conditions and dropped out short after 10 km. He was still in contention when he dropped in Rome...Ivchenko won very competitive races against tough fields in fast times in Uzhgorod and Innsbruck and gave Gulbichnich a good race in the Soviet Championship before falling apart in Rome...Zedelgem had fast times in seconds to both Stadtmauller and Ivchenko...Frenkel was always the third East German but had a very good collection of times, although the 1:23:30 seems a bit suspect...Zambaldo gave the East German trio two good races, had a very fast track time and unlike most of those ranked above him, performed well in Rome...Gonzales had an up and down season but beat Mills very convincingly on the track and did well in Rome....Mills had two mediocre races on the track, a fast second to Ame Seddon in the British Championship and then ran very well in the Rome race...Gonzales is really an unknown factor and it would be great to see him in a tough European race but his fast time in Mexico City's altitude is very impressive.

1974 Top 25 Performers—20 Km

1. 2:26:54.0 Ilia Frenkel, East Germany, Leipzig 7/20
2. 2:26:50.0 Peter Frenkel, East Germany, Leipzig 7/20
3. 2:26:32.0 Yuriy Denisov, East Germany, Leipzig 7/20
4. 2:26:30.0 Valery Belousov, East Germany, Leipzig 7/20
5. 2:27:24.0 Raul Gonzalez, Mexico, Mexico City 9/17
6. 2:27:56.2 Ion Casitiu, Romania, Bucharest 5/19
7. 2:28:02.0 Rolf Berner, East Germany, Leipzig 7/20
8. 2:28:01.0 Feliks Dobosz, Poland, Warsaw 5/6
11. 2:28:34.6 Gerhard Weidner, W. Germany, Nurnburg 5/2
12. 2:28:34.6 Sergei Eondarenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9
15. 2:28:56.0 Eduard Soldatenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9
16. 2:29:22.8 Otto Bartels, DDR, Gdansk 4/21
17. 2:29:22.8 Benjaman Soldatenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9
18. 2:29:22.8 Winfried Skotnicki, DDR, Gdansk 4/21
20. 2:29:22.8 Jan Kroel, Germany, Nurnburg 5/2

Top 10 U.S. Performers—20 Km

1. 2:28:34.6 Gerhard Weidner, W. Germany, Nurnburg 5/2
2. 2:28:32.0 Yuriy Schalgin, U.S.S.R., Uzhgorod 4/21
4. 2:28:30.6 Sergei Eondarenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9
6. 2:28:30.6 Eduard Soldatenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9
7. 2:28:34.6 Gerhard Weidner, W. Germany, Nurnburg 5/2
8. 2:28:34.6 Sergei Eondarenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9
10. 2:28:34.6 Eduard Soldatenko, U.S.S.R., USSR Ch. 7/9

Now let us do the same exercise for U.S. walkers, this being the third year we have done such. Things are a little more clear cut on the U.S. scene, particularly in the 50, which goes almost exactly as the National. For that matter, so does the 20, but only after weighing some factors. So let us first look at that 20.
1. Jerry Brown, Colorado TC
   1:33:33.4 (1) NAAU Nat. City 6/2
   1:40:31.0 (4) USSR Durham 7/6
2. Floyd Godwin, Colorado TC
   1:37:28.8 (1) Boulder (tr)
   1:40:01.0 (2) NAAU Nat. City 6/2
   1:38:32.0 (5) USsr Durham 7/6
3. John Knifton, NYAC
   1:35:45.0 (3) NAAU Nat. City 6/2
   1:40:33.0 (1) Ramapo 6/27
   1:31:30.1 (4) Pine Plains 9/29 (tr)
   1:37:10.2 (2) Montreal 10/5
   1:36:29.6 (1) New York 10/30
   1:33:58.0 (4) Frankfort 5/5
   1:37:15.0 (5) NAAU Nat. City 6/2
   1:30:05.0 (6) Hanover 7/26
   1:30:51.6 (1) Montreal 10/5
5. Ron Laird, NYAC
   1:33:51.6 (1) Hamburg 10/26
   1:35:35.0 (1) San Francisco (tr)
7. Kay Sowers, NYAC
   1:36:52.0 (2) New York 10/10
8. Dave Romansky
   1:37:56.0 (3) NAAU Nat. City 6/2
   1:35:16.0 (4) NAAU Dayton 8/17
9. Ron Daniel, NYAC
   1:39:05.0 (5) New York 10/20
   1:40:00.0 (6) Pittsburgh 8/17
10. Mike Allen, un.
    1:39:10.0 (4) Harzecamps 4/7
    1:39:59.6 (21) Frankfort 5/5
    1:42:06.0

5. Ron Laird, NYAC
   1:33:51.6 (1) Hamburg 10/26

Brown beat everyone quite decisively in the National and his poor race in the USSR meet does not detract from his No. 1 ranking. Godwin with his solid 2nd in the Nationals and a good effort against the USSR is second. Knifton broke even in two races with Henderson and his loss to Bob came only a week after his very fast track time. Henderson had two excellent races in Germany and a good effort against Canada. His relatively poor race in the Nationals was in large part due to too much travel. Laird had only the one late race but it was good enough to rank him ahead of anyone else. Likewise with the next three...Daniel, after a fine race in the National, tailed off. Allen, who raced only in Germany, edges Gary Westerfield, seventh in the National, for the final spot.

5. Ron Laird, NYAC
   1:33:51.6 (1) Hamburg 10/26

Brown beat everyone quite decisively in the National and his poor race in the USSR meet does not detract from his No. 1 ranking. Godwin with his solid 2nd in the Nationals and a good effort against the USSR is second. Knifton broke even in two races with Henderson and his loss to Bob came only a week after his very fast track time. Henderson had two excellent races in Germany and a good effort against Canada. His relatively poor race in the Nationals was in large part due to too much travel. Laird had only the one late race but it was good enough to rank him ahead of anyone else. Likewise with the next three...Daniel, after a fine race in the National, tailed off. Allen, who raced only in Germany, edges Gary Westerfield, seventh in the National, for the final spot.

1974 Top 20 U.S. Performers at 20 Km

1:31:30.4 John Knifton, Pine Plains, N.Y. 9/29
1:33:33.4 Jerry Brown, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:33:51.6 Ron Laird, Hamburg, N.G. 10/26
1:33:56.0 Bob Henderson, Frankfurt, W.G. 5/5
1:35:01.0 Floyd Godwin, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:35:35.0 Bill Ranney, San Francisco
1:36:06.0 Ron Daniel, Nassau City, N. 6.2
1:36:52.0 Kay Sowers, New York City 10/10
1:37:56.0 Dave Romansky, New York City 10/30
1:39:10.0 Mike Allen, Hanover 4/7
1:39:31.0 Gary Westerfield, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:40:04.0 Howie Palfreyman, Nassau City 6/2
1:40:23.0 Jim Hurley, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:40:46.0 Larry W. Chung, Columbia, Mo. 7/27
1:42:00.0 Algie Hirt, Columbia, Mo. 7/27
1:41:35.0 Wayne Quirk, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:42:04.0 Ron Kulik, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:42:14.0 Bob Falciola, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:43:16.0 Tom Knitt, Nassau City, N.Y. 6/2
1:46:14.4 Mike DeWitt, Boulder, Colo. 5/11
"#" Championships

Western

East

10 Km--White Plains, N.Y., Aug. 7-9
20 Km--White Plains, Aug. 7-9
5 Km--Washington, D.C., Jul. 11
10 Km--Washington, D.C., Jul. 11
15 Km--Washington, D.C., Jul. 11
20 Km--Washington, D.C., Jul. 11

Results (cont.)

2. Daniele &~tiste, l·~ ..• 43:45 3 , Brian Adams 44:32 4. ~oir Toone

2. Ross, un . 4:39:45 8, Kevin Georgehegan,

3 , Steve O'Prien , G&G 3 : 58 : 34 4, Roy Yarbrough, US Coast Guard 4:00:11


FROM HEEL TO TOE

Next year's Lugano Cup final is scheduled for Toulon, France on October 11 and 12. East Germany, USSR, and Italy are automatically qualified as the first three from the 1973 meet. The U.S. is also in the final as the only entry from outside Europe. (It beats me why Mexico does not enter since they travel a good bit anyway.) The remaining entries will come from the following competitions to be held on Sept. 29-30. Each country's teams will qualify from each. The lineups for these are: Steti, Czechoslovakia—Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, West Germany, Hungary, Rumania, Spain, and Yugoslavia. Odense, Denmark—Belgium, Denmark, Eire, Great Britain, Norway, Poland, and Sweden. At this time it would, like West Germany and Hungary from one and Great Britain and Poland from the other... It has been reported that David Kandenberg had a leg operation on Nov. 15 but the nature of the surgery is not known... Incidently, I forgot to mention with the above rundown on the Lugano Cup that the Pan-Am Games in Mexico City are scheduled for October with the Opening Ceremonies on the 16th I believe. Although the dates of the walk have not been announced to my knowledge, there is obviously some conflict and we probably want to be able to have our best at both sites. The lineups may be as follows: 1, 3, 8 in the Jr. 5 Km to take that title... Jim Lopes, a 50 Km stalwart for the now defunct Athens AC several years back, made his comeback recently when he got a call from Frank Hagarty that no one had showed up for a race in a "big meet" and to hurry on over. Rushing through boxes of gold race walking clothes he came up with something suitable and rushed over to win in 8:07. Whether this gets him going again is another reason. As you have figured by this time, this weary old typewriter has returned to its former habit of skipping for no apparent reason. The electric I had on lease from the lady last has gone back to her brother who decided he didn't want to sell it after all... A recent subscriber, fairly new to the sport, has written concerning his confusion concerning the conversion from kilometers to miles. I guess when you have been walking in kilometers for these many years you tend to take the relationship for granted, However, for others who may be confused, the best thing to remember is that 5 Km equals 3 miles 188 yards. Since most metric races are in multiples of 5 (except for occasional 3 Km races, which are 240 yards short of 2 miles) you can simply divide by 5 and then multiply by three and be in the ballpark. By the time you get to 50 km the extra 188 yards has added a bit over a mile (31 miles 120 yards)... Dale Pas reports that he found out several years ago (as I did recently) that Hush Puppies are cheap and comfortable, but wear out very quickly. However, he was
shown (by Todd Scully, he thinks) how to glue track tire inner tube to the sole. Westwood contact cement works best. He now has about 2,500 miles on a pair (on the fifth inner tube) and they are still holding up well... Some way I forgot to broadcast this when it first came out several months ago, but now I pick it up from Bob Hixson’s Penn AG Newsletter and won’t let it get by again. The monumental report in that sex and track do mix. So says West German Doctor Rolf Steinbach, a former Olympic long jumper. Steinbach surveyed the sex lives of 800 competitors at the 1972 Olympics and found that lovemaking three to five times a week was normal. More often, few of the athletes restricted their lovemaking activities prior to a big event, and many claimed rigorous training made them feel sexy. (Horny, as we have reported previously in these pages.) “The 1977 theory that hard sport and a cold shower quicken the sexual urge certainly doesn’t seem to apply to the 1970’s,” says Steinbach. “And coaches who think they can improve their proteges’ sporting achievements by barring them from the loudbase, are wasting their time.”

LOOKING BACK

5 Years Ago (From the November 1969 GW)—The Annual OTC Dist-run Carnival walks saw a “foreign” invasion as Gary Westerfield, Steve Hayden, and Jerry Dooley took 1-2-3 ahead of Jack Mortland on Saturday’s 7 mile and E. C. Hayden, and Mike C. on taking 1-2-3 in Sunday’s 15 mile. Westerfield and Hayden dropped out of the latter. Gary had a 53:58.2 ahead of Jerry’s 54:31 and Jerry beat Steve 2:05:32 to 2:05:35.

Tom Dooley blistered a 7:28:17 for 10 miles in San Rafael and Marcel Jobin was nearly as fast in Long Beach with 7:29:26. Peter Selzer won the Lugano 100 km race in 9:29:32 as record holder Chris Hohne (9:15:57, 4).

So the man who has only four in 9:59:36... Promising young Todd Sulzy turned 2:14:00 for 2 miles... Dave Eichler won the Jr. National 50 km in 3:16:43. Paul Rhind turned in a fantastic 43:25 for 7 miles on the road in England. Dooley also had a 2:39:30 for 20 miles.

ALL-TIME TOP 20 U.S. PERFORMANCES AND 40 PERFORMERS AT 20 KM

(Updated from list that appeared in Dec. 1973 GW and originally compiled by Bob Bowtan.)

1. 1:29:12.6 Ron Laird, End Saarow, E.C., 10/15/67
2. 1:30:50.0 Dave Romansky, Lenexa, K.S., 12/23/70
3. 1:30:10.0tr Larry Young, Columbia, Mo., 5/7/72
4. 1:31:18.0tr Romansky, Greenville, N.C., 3/15/70
6. 1:31:27.0 Laird, West Germany, 11/73
7. 1:30:39.8tr Tom Dooley, San Francisco 5/9/71
8. 1:30:46.0 Romansky, Eschborn, W.G., 10/10/70
9. 1:30:50.0 Dooley, Eschborn, W.G., 10/10/70
10. 1:31:10.0tr Romansky, Trenton, N.J., 11/71
11. 1:31:30.0tr John Knifton, Pine Plains, N.Y., 9/25/74
12. 1:31:59.0tr Laird, Walnut, Calif. 10/29/67
13. 1:31:51.0tr Dooley, San Francisco 5/11/72
14. 1:31:52.0tr Bob Kitchen, San Francisco 5/14/72
15. 1:31:54.0tr Laird, Hamburg, W.G., 9/16/73
16. 1:32:14.0tr Romansky, Long Island, N.Y., 6/26/72
17. 1:32:43.0 Ron Zinn, Tokyo, Japan 10/15/64
18. 1:33:01.0tr Bill Ranney, San Francisco 5/14/72
19. 1:33:03.0tr John E. Mortland, Esq., Editor, Publisher, Circulation Manager, Mail Clerk, Head of the Complaint Department. Address all complaints, compliments, and three dollar bills (for one glorious year of unforgettable reading) to Ohio Race Walker, 3184 Summit St., Columbus, Ohio 43202.