Pittsburgh, Nov. 8—Dr. John Knifton journeyed north from Texas to brave Pittsburgh's chilly November weather and return home with a decisive victory in the NAAU Senior 35 Km walk. John bombed the third 5 miles of the race to destroy the opposition and then powered home in an excellent 2:59:52. Although unable to match Knifton's speed, Bill Walker walked a very strong race and captured second in 3:06:20. Less than a minute back of him was his teammate, newcomer Marty Kraft, as these two lead the Motor City Striders to an upset win over the NYAC.

The race was held on a 5 mile 16 yard lap in Pittsburgh's North Park. The temperature was a reasonably comfortable 40°F at the start but later dropped to 33, a fact that caused many of the competitors to tighten up. We are indebted to Gary Bywaters for the following account of the race's progress.

At the start, it looked as if Gary Westerfield would try to steal the race as he came through the first 5-mile loop in 41:32. This left him more than a minute ahead of Knifton and Steve DiBernardo with a large pack following another minute back. The eight in this group were Ron Daniel, Ray Somers, Jerry Bocci, Walker, Sal Corallo, Steve Hayden, Tom Hamilton, and Mike Dulke.

At 10 miles Westerfield clocked 1:22:13 and continued to pull out. He was now almost 3-minutes ahead of Knifton and Steve DiBernardo. John started to wonder if Gary were for real and set off to catch him on the next lap. Daniel, meanwhile, led the rest of the pack as only 16 seconds separated 4th place from 11th. Floriani had replaced Dulke in this group and Kraft was moving up on them.

Knifton streaked a 39:04 on his third lap, picking up a caution for creeping in the process, and left a now laboring Westerfield 1½ minutes back. Gary dropped out a few hundred yards later, complaining of tight legs because of the weather. Walker was beginning to labor, but moved into third with DiBernardo dropping out because of stomach cramps. He had been experimenting with fasting and later attributed his troubles to poor nutrition. Kraft, walking for only 6 months, looked very strong, moving from 12th at 10 miles to 6th at 13, and appeared to have a lot left. Hayden moved to 7th, walking very consistently and showing no signs of things to come for him. The rest of the pack began to break up, but only 19 seconds separated 3rd from 6th.

Knifton eased in with his caution, repeating his win here last year. Quick-moving Kraft was gaining on the struggling Walker at 20 miles, but Bill recovered well over the remaining distance to beat his teammate by 49 seconds. Kraft is definitely someone to look at for the future.
**BAUTISTA REPEATS AT 20, SOLDATENKO REPLACES KANENBERG AT 50 IN 1976 WORLD RANKINGS FOR 1976**

Mexico's Daniel Bautista, who moved from nowhere to first in the world 3A year, proved it was not a fluke as he once again leads the Ohio Racewalker's Annual World Rankings at 20 Km. His decisive Olympic victory and his world's fastest time earlier in Warsaw left little doubt as to his superiority. The 50 was equally clear cut with Benjamin Soldatenko's outstanding win in the World Championship. Soldatenko also ranked first in 1971 and was second last year. Following are the top ten in each event, as we see it, together with comments on the rankings and a list of the top 25 times for the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Daniel Bautista</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1:25:13.8</td>
<td>vs. Canada 4/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Raul Gonzales</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1:35:25.2</td>
<td>vs. Canada 5/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vladimir Golubnichiy</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1:28:20.3</td>
<td>(1) Warsaw 5/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vladimir Golubnichiy</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1:30:12.6</td>
<td>(2) Olympic 5/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vladimir Golubnichiy</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1:32:00.6</td>
<td>(3) vs. Poland, SU 8/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Domingo Colin</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1:28:20.3</td>
<td>(2) Softeland 5/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Armando Zambaldo</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1:25:52.5</td>
<td>(1) Rome 7/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vladimir Golubnichiy</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1:28:20.3</td>
<td>(2) Olympic 5/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Vladimir Golubnichiy</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1:30:00.0</td>
<td>(1) Southend 5/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Olly Flynn</td>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>1:32:15.0</td>
<td>(2) Softeland 5/15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As stated above, Bautista is really an unchallenged first. His one loss came on the day after a World Record 10 Km and was probably more a training error on his part. Frenkel, although beaten by Reimann in the Olympics had three wins over his opponents in other races and takes the second spot. Gonzales also was not quite up to par in Montreal, had three other superior races, including two faster than the East German's best. Reimann and Stadtmuller take the next two spots off their great Olympic races and generally consistent record (both had one leasy race). Colin is clearly the best of the rest and his questionable disqualification in Montreal may have cost him a higher ranking. The next three are ranked primarily off their Olympic finish supported by good records in other races. Flynn had a good race in Montreal but won the British Championship decisively over a good field and then trounced both Zambaldo and Visini in a fast race in the GB-Italy match.
The only change from the finish there is moving Müller into Barndt's position, knowing that which ever way I go I will be so stupid. And since I know and like both guys, I am made to feel from Reg, Syl, and/or all of their friends wondering how anyone could lose despite its deemphasis.

U.S. RANKINGS

Probably I should give up on the U.S. rankings. All I do is lose friends. Each year I agonize over whether Reggie should rank ahead of Sylvester, knowing that which ever way I go I am sure to get letters from Reg, Syl, and/or all of their friends wondering how anyone could be so stupid. And since I know and like both guys, I am made to feel considerable remorse in either case. Nonetheless, here are my fearless rankings for 1976.

20 Kilometers

2. Todd Scully, 1:34:05.2 (1) vs Canada 5/23 1:25:28.6 (1) Eugene 6/19
4. Larry Young, 1:29:40.4 (4) vs. USSR 9/6 1:36:15 (3) Eugene 6/19
5. Dan O'Connor, 1:34:05.2 (1) vs Canada 5/23 1:25:28.6 (1) Eugene 6/19
7. Benjamin Soldatenko, USSR, USSR 8/6 1:31:23.3 (6) vs USSR 9/6
8. Enrique Vera, Mexico, Warsaw 5/30 1:27:27.6 (1) Roland Weisser, East Germany, Dresden 5/30
9. Stefan Heidiger, East Germany, Warsaw 5/30 1:26:28.0 (2) Boris Yakovlev, USSR, Foris 5/30
11. Carl Heinz Stadtmüller, East Germany, Montre 7/23 1:25:32.0 (1) Domingo Colin, Mexico, Warsaw 5/30
12. Bohdan Kozakowski, Poland, Warsaw 5/30 1:24:43.0 (8) Yevgeniy Yevsyukov, USSR, USSR Champ. 6/11
15. Aleksis Troiteki, USSR, USSR Champ. 6/11 1:24:00.0 (3) Aleksis Troiteki, USSR, USSR Champ. 6/11
The Olympic Trial Race in Eugene was, of course, short and is meaningless as far as times go. However, it was quite decisive in the rankings. One deviation from the finish there was Laird over Scully for first. This was a very difficult decision. Todd won two of three races between the two. However, Ron won the most important one, the Olympics, decisively and had by far the fastest time and got the nod. Last year he was unranked...Scully remains second, having been ranked behind Larry Young last year...the two Larry's were second and fourth in Eugene and Larry W. produced well in Montreal to solidify his third-place ranking. The next three places were difficult...O'Connor faltered a bit at Eugene but had a consistent record, three very good times and a second place in the National title race, where he beat Heiring convincingly...This seems to give him the nod over Heiring, who beat him at Eugene...Heiring was also a clear winner over Klopfer at Eugene, and thus seems to rank ahead of them. However, Goetz also beat O'Connor at Eugene and had the best time of the three, which would clearly seem to put him ahead of O'Connor (who I have ahead of Heiring, who I have ahead of Klopfer). Obviously, I have left myself open to argument here, but since O'Connor seems to outrank Heiring on the record and likewise Heiring heads Klopfer, I choose to ignore that clear margin of Klopfer over O'Connor. (Does anyone understand that?)...the next three places are decided on the finish at Eugene...Others in line for ranking until they faltered at Eugene were John Knifton, Bob Kitchen, and Wayne Glusker.

Top 25 U.S. Performers at 20 Km, 1976

1:29:40.4 (4) Ron Laird, Jalapa, Mex. 4/11
1:31:23.3 (3) Todd Scully, College Park, Md. 8/6
1:31:19.9 (22) Larry Walker, Montreal 7/23
1:34:20.0 (1) Goetz Klopfer, San Francisco 4/4
1:35:18.66 (1) Tom Dooley, San Francisco, 3/4
1:35:31.0 (1) John Knifton, Long Branch 3/14
1:35:40.0 (2) Dave Homansky, Long Branch, N.J. 3/14
1:35:58.2 (3) Bob Kitchen, Alexandria, Va. 5/23
1:36:10.0 (1) Jerry Brown, Boulder, Colorado 4/23
1:36:15.0 (3) Bob Leaver 5/23
1:36:15.4 (2) Augie Hirt 4:46:32 (7) Columbia 8/15
1:36:30.0 (7) Randy Minn 4:19:42 (8) Columbia 8/15
1:36:57.0 (1) John Knifton, Long Branch 3/14
1:39:10.0 (1) Jerry Givens, Boulder, Colo. 4/25
1:40:15.0 (1) Jerry Givens, Boulder, Colo. 4/25
1:40:16.0 (9) Bob Henderson, Boulder 4/25
1:42:16.0 (9) Bob Henderson, Boulder 4/25

50 KILOMETER

1. Larry Young 4:11:08 (1) Columbia 8/15
2. Floyd Godwin 4:25:45 (4) Columbia 8/15
7. Randy Minn 4:19:42 (8) Columbia 8/15
8. Mike Regan 4:25:45 (4) Columbia 8/15
10. Alan Price 5:05:54 (9) Columbia 8/15

Not much to comment on here. They rank in the same order that they finished in the National. We slide further down in this event. Last year there were 11 under 5:00. One would hope to see a resurgence next year when the Lugano Cup will be contested again.

Any additions or corrections to both the World and U.S. lists will be welcome.

RESUL'TS:

Two hours after completing all of the above, I received in the mail the Internationaler Gehsport Rapport with some late results that will affect the lists but not my rankings. I will let you make the changes yourself after perusing the results. Of most significance is that the Soviet 16 kilometer course in Kiev is in question as to its length. Not surprising. If this race is not official, it will change the lists markedly. Anyway, on to the results.

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Augie Hirt looking strong in the early stages of his 100-mile ordeal in Columbia in September.

Augie Hirt, the Winner, looking weak and bedraggled, is assisted by a nurse and his wife, Joan, following his 100-mile ordeal in Columbia. (Photos by Cathy Breitenbuecher, Keokuk, Iowa)
5:10:00 (7th and 6th) — Randy Hirnm again failed to finish along with Larry Young, who had planned an assault on the American record before illness cut into his training. He strolled 5 miles.

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Leonid Vilguta 1:30:58 20 Km (track), Vilnius, June 6-1. Stanislav Schapetosk, 1:30:26 20 Km, Shymkent, USSR, May 16.1. Nikolai Vinitschenko, USSR, May 15 1:30:31 20 Km, Brno, 1:30:42 20 Km, Brno, 1:30:53 20 Km, Brno, 1:30:57 20 Km, Brno. 

Results of the race, apparently deliberately published. 


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A FEW FORTHCOMING RACES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST, THE RACE-WALKING COMMUNITY

Sun. Dec. 12-5 Km Hcp, Lakeland, Fla. (A) 

Fr. Dec. 17-1 Mile Hcp, New York City, 6 p.m. (A) 

Sat. Dec. 18-10 Mile, Columbus, Ohio, 9 a.m. (A) 

Sun. Dec. 19-5 Km, 2 Mile Women, Newton, MA, 2 p.m. (J) 

Sat. Dec. 26-5 Km, 2 Mile Women, Newton, MA, 2 p.m. (M) 

Sun. Dec. 26-5 Mile, Springfield or Columbus, Ohio (Editor) 

Sat. Jan. 1-10 Km, Washington, D.C., 12 noon (E) 

Wed. Jan. 5-Jr. Met. AAA 1 Mile (A) 

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Sun. Jan. 9-New York City, 10 a.m. (A) 


20 Km, Uzhgorod, 1 Nov. 14-1. Sal Crolli 1:41:47 2. Brian Savi- 


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licy thank both the Green & Gold AC and the AAU Race Walking Committee for this recognition. Since this was the first year for the Award, I feel especially honored to have received it. And another error in my convention. I was elected by the committee as USOC representative, not appointed by Dean Ingraham. This is a post that Bruce McDonald has filled so capably for the past several years. Bruce was our representative to the USOC Track & Field Committee, which no longer exists. The AAU T&F Committee now has 6 representatives to the USOC. They have decided to pick four from the T&F Committee, one from the Long Distance Committee and one from Race Walking. Finally, for the Commonwealth, Bob Bowman reports that the films shown, including his at 22 frames per second, were not justified. But not off. In fact, Bob feels the general standard of going is. It was generally felt that Gonzalez was the best. However, he feels that the judging was handled poorly and if there had been even a few violations the judging may not have prevented them. He supports Joe Tigerman's objections that there were too few good judges. Also one result from Bob's letter that I am missing in the results section: 5:47.5, Walnut Creek, CA. Since the above, a phone call from Gary Westerfield, Esq. with the results of today's (Nov. 28) Annual Coney Island 10 Mile Handicap. There were 51 in the race and here are the first 20: 1. Michael O'Donnell, LIAC (age 17) 1:23:12 2. Dave Johnson, Shore AC 1:26:12 3. Dan Stanek, Niagara (age 15) 1:28:15 4. Dave Lakritz, NYC 1:31:16 5. Rodney Craig, Shore AC (age 16) 1:36:35 6. Gary Jacobson, LIAC 1:40:57 7. Chris Fleischer, LIAC 1:44:57 8. Mark Faucher, Shore AC 1:45:51 9. Anita Voris, North Medford CJ.ub 1:47:24 (age 16) 1:51:25 10. Gary Powell, Shore AC (age 15) 1:53:11 11. Eileen Steed, NY PAL 1:58:11 12. Sam DeLos Santos, Shore AC 1:59:26 (age 15) 13. Susan Liers, LIAC 1:59:27 14. Vincent O'Sullivan, Hunter Coll. AAU 1:59:36 (fast time) 15. Mark Seideman, Shore AC 1:59:42 16. Steve Hayden, LIAC 1:59:51 17. Morris Davis, 92nd St. YNHA 2:01:46 18. Dave Lake, Gary Westerfield, LIAC 2:01:47 20. Tom Kline, The Capital Walkers 1:59:11 - 21. Anita Voris, North Medford CJ.ub 1:59:49 - 22. Shore AC 1:59:51 - 23. North Medford CJ.ub 1:59:56 - 24. Shore AC 1:59:58 - 25. North Medford CJ.ub 2:00:56. And in a women's 2 mile held prior to the 10 the results were: 1. Susan Liers 1:57:25 2. Eileen Smith 1:58:32 3. Mary Beth Lang 1:58:51 4. Stella Palomar 2:01:15 5. Denise Romanosky 2:01:45 6. Virginia Leaver 2:01:47. The infamous John Hales, writing for Athletic Illustrated, brought down the wrath of the British race walking fraternity upon his head. However, a letter scheduled to appear in these pages last month, has boldly replied to the negative and vehement reactions to his opinions. And, actually there is some sense to his arguments if one cares to be completely rational and logical. But then few sports make much sense when looked at in those terms. In any case, his second letter reads, in part: "Maybe in my first letter I said walking was unnatural. I said walking was 'unnatural.' Of course objects which form a barrier between themselves and something they want; they certainly engage in quite sophisticated throwing events. By age 15 months many babies break contact with the ground in their efforts to get somewhere quickly. They realize intuitively that to get somewhere before somebody else is best achieved by running rather than walking. Foot racing derives from the primitive but fundamental instinct of running either to escape from, or to catch, something. If there was a bush or boulder in the way, early man naturally hurried or high jumped it; if it was too high or wide he used a staff to vault with, if the ob-