DA MILANO, GAUDER SURPRISE WINNERS IN OLYMPICS

Italy's Maurizio Daillano, apparently on his way to a bronze medal in the Olympic 20 km, which may have been more than he expected, watched first Daniel Bautista and then Anatoly Solomin get pulled by the judges in the late stages and then cruised to victory in Olympic record time--1:23:35. Bautista was leading at about 18 kilometers when he was axed and Solomin was only 400 meters from entering the stadium when he got his red flag.

Domingo Collin of Mexico was also pulled. Perhaps it was poetic justice for Daillano who was disqualified himself near the finish of last year's Lugano Cup race. The Italian has always been very consistent and quite competitive, but has never quite made it in the big races. This time he did. Ranked 8th and 13th in the World the last two years, he finally decided to take charge for this one. Besides the apparently tighter judging, the temperature was over 90 F at race time, accounting for the slow times by today's "standards". At this point, all we have are the top six, as follows: 1. Maurizio Daillano, Italy 1:23:35 2. Faytr Potanenchuk, USSR 1:24:45 3. Roland Wiener, E.G. 1:25:30 4. Yevgeniy Yevnyukov, USSR 1:26:28 5. Jose Marin, Spain 1:26:46 6. Paul Gonzales, Mexico 1:27:46

In the 50 Km, East Germany's Hartwig Gauder won the day in 3:49:24. Moving up from 20 km, where he was seventh in last year's Lugano Cup race, Gauder outstrides Sapin's always tough Jorge Llopart. In third, but well back of these two was Soviet veteran Yevgeniy Ivченко--nearly 20 minutes slower than he was a couple of months ago on what was reportedly the same course. The Mexicans were nowhere to be seen in this race, but I have no details at this time on DQs, DNFs, or did not starts. Next month we should have full details on both races. Results of the 50: 1. Hartwig Gauder, E.G. 3:49:24 2. Jorge Llopart, Spain 3:51:25 3. Yevgeniy Ivченко, USSR 3:56:32 4. Bengt Simonsen, Sweden 3:57:07 5. Yacheslav Fursov, USSR 3:59:32 6. Jose Marin, Spain 4:03:06 7. Stanislav Rola, Poland 4:07:07 8. Willy Sowell, Australia 4:08:25 9. Laszlo Sator, Hungary 4:10:53 10. Pavol Bzuk, Czech. 4:16:26 11. Tom Richards, UK 4:22:57 12. Christos Karageorgos, Greece 4:24:26

U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM COMPETITION

The U.S. Olympic team has had three races, two in Germany and one in Philadelphia. They also had some poor scheduling, it appears to me. The one race in which they had good competition was a 20 Km in Germany—the day after another 20 Km. Hard 20's back-to-back are not easy. Also, there has been no opportunity yet for the 50 Km men to do their thing. Top performance was Marco Evonius 1:26:51 for 20. Third best ever for an American behind Dan O'Connor and Neal Pyke. Results of the races:

JOBS 
WINNER, SHARP U.S. CHAMPION AT 15 KM
Niagara Falls, July 12-Marcus Jobin of Canada continued as the dominant
force in North American race walking circles as he handily won the U.S.
Athletics Congress 15 Km Championship race today. Marcus' time, 1:08:15,
was another pedestrian by his current standards, but he appeared content
to walk only fast enough to win once he had established a commanding lead.

After finishing, he strolled through a cooling off lap in which he was still
easily passing all the back markers, such as your editor.

Ray Sharp hung with Jobin for the first lap before finding the pace
too too fast and then holding on to win fast-closing Pete Timmons who
had his best race ever. Sharp finished in 1:10:12, with Timmons just 2 seconds
behind. Pete's excellent race led the New York AC, with virtually a
brand new cast, to the team title. He was joined by Tim Lewis, who walked
brilliantly in fifth while capturing the Junior title, and Mike Morris in
seventh. The days of Laird, Kroll, Daniel, and Kulik are gone.

Allen Price continues to showform over a wide range of distances
and pressed Timmons for the third spot. Canadian Glen Sweeney, always tough
but only running on these days, filled out the top six. Second to Lewis
in the Junior race, and eighth overall was the Island Track Club's Tom
Edwards. Ron Kulik, while he could, since he (Tom) would also
in the Master's ranks in a few.

An accompanying women's race, conducted simultaneously, saw Sue Brodock
pull away from Susan Lers-Neslerfield on the final two laps to record an
American best ever at 1:19:37. The listed world best until this year was
1:18:34 by Thorill Cuddy, but Sue Cook (nee Orr) of Australia did 1:18:32
earlier this year on the way to 20 Kms. Although not matching Brodock at
the finish, Lers-Neslerfield recorded an excellent 1:19:00. The old lady
of women's walking (not the pioneer—we reserve that title for Corinne Blakoburn)
Jeanne Bocci gave both Sues a tussle
women's walking (not
the end, U.ers - Wested'ie ld recorded an excellent 1:19:00. The old lady of
American best ever 1:16:37. The listed world best
but really coming on these days, filled out the top six. Second to Lewis
-with that ear:ly spurt
After finishing, he strolled through a cooling off lap in which he was still
easily passing all the back markers, such as your editor.

The Results:

1:10:12 (U.S. Champion) 3. Tim Lewis, NYAC 1:10:24 4. Allen Price, Poto-
Glen Sweeney, Canada 1:12:02 7. Michael Morris, NYAC 1:12:23 8. Tom
Richard Fenton, Brockport AC 1:15:17 (3rd Junior) 17. Frank Johnson,
Canada 1:15:29 18. Jay Evers, Green & Gold A.C. 1:16:32 19. Mark Hensler,

Women's National 15 Kms: 1. Sue Brodock, Southern California Road runners
1:18:32 8. Dorothy Kelly (age 17) 9. Sally Stewart, Northern California AC
Island AC 1:26:26 (8th Junior) 20. Gerald Bocci, Motor City Striders 1:26:54 (3rd
Master) 34. Jamie Janos

THE OHIO RACER
May 2, 1980
1500 Meter, Long Branch, July 19-1. John Fredericks 6:57.8 2. Cliff Mimm
Funkhouser 31:40 4. Andrus Bergan won 3:11:16 but was not eligible 
for national record. Girls 10 Mile, Philadelphia, Pa., 
10. Joe A. 9:57
11. Elliott Deman 27:52
29:30 6. Elliott Deman 30:31
1500 Meter, Long Branch, July 19-1. John Fredericks 6:57.8 2. Cliff Mimm
From Track and Field News, July 1980: When Paul O'Conner walked to his incredible 3:41.20 last year, Britain's Athletics Weekly called the feat "boumful.

What then do we call the latest antics from the Soviet Union, with at least six "walkers" finishing under that mark, the fastest of the breaking the old mark by an incredible 3:49? Coupled with that 1:16:32 in the 20 kilo event and it's obvious that this segment of the sport has gotten out of control. Always difficult to control because it requires judgement calls, watching in now inviting exclusion from the ranks of serious sport.

Interpretations of the rules vary round the world. The current Soviet school of thought, obviously, is rather lax. These are likely to be the same people judging this summer's Olympic and the athletes who have trained and qualified under much stricter standards will be at a disadvantage. (BI. Here, of course, TF News showed their ignorance of this branch of the sport. Unlike other track and field events, for which the host nation supplies officials, the walks are always judged by a panel of International Judges.)

We don't mind if the walker look a bit odd when practicing their event. Nor do we think they are non-athletes, as the physiques of world-class practitioners of the art are truly fantastic.

We do mind, however, when picture after picture from international championship meets shows performers with both feet off the ground, in obvious contravention of the most basic rule of the sport. And we do mind an event in which the performances of past greats are ground into meaninglessness not by natural progress, but by an pervasion of the basic purpose.

We can't help but wonder if the fault doesn't lie in that basic purpose. As one noted scholar once said, "Race walking is like the art of trying to whisper with a loudspeaker." (M.)

Editor: That kind of publicity certainly is needed, but it is invited and there is enough truth there to be a little scary.

From Gordon Wallace: I have read with much interest your comment and that of Paul Vlahos in the June 1980 issue of the OW, with respect to the contact rule in racewalking. I am in full agreement with you both. The fine sport of racewalking, which can ill spare such a splendid advocate and performer has already lost John Allen because of the relaxation in the contact rule as currently condoned by many judges. This is a shame, and a halt needs to be called at once; or, as you suggest, distinguish between racewalking and a new sport which could be called "straight-legged running".

In any sport the competitive edge among national and world class athletes is a natural phenomenon; with regard to actual physical performance as each generation pushes on to higher and higher levels. But without rules and adherence to them, records become meaningless. It seems to me that in the end, when the bounds of pure physical limitations are reached within any rule structure, then it is technique that makes the difference and marks the true champion.

As a newcomer to the sport (less than 3 years), I cannot represent myself as an authority on the matter, but it does seem to me that if the contact rule was strictly enforced, outstanding racewalkers would be forced to hone their techniques to the sharpest edge in order to outpoint their competitors. An in this not what really takes place in any sport, given physical prowess per se equal, or nearly so?

In this regard, I would like to add the following to John Allen's comment on Sue Brodock's technique, but allowing rather to a male racewalker.

For 4 weeks in February and March, I enjoyed the privilege of being the guest of the Mexican Olympic Committee at its super facility in Mexico City. There
Firstly, it is necessary to examine the differences between running and walking and which are apparent. One look at Tables 2, 3, and 5 shows that the important points of comparison are:

1. The race walker has a low, flat stride with minimal knee lift (Fig. 4).
2. The race walker's forward foot makes contact with the ground in sharp distinction with the runner at this moment (Figs. 2 & 5).
3. At full stride, the race walker's body is virtually constant in running, even though he is characteristically 'triangle' in full stride. Walking with constantly bent knees looks running to anybody. In fact, the order of events in a race walk is only comprehensible to a cinematographer as he can see only from the rear.
4. The race walker is well-organized for the leg fully extended for it to be straight by the time it rises to the vertical. So he achieves the characteristic 'triangle' in full stride. Walking with constantly bent knees looks running to anybody. In fact, the order of events is only comprehensible to a cinematographer as he can see only from the rear.
5. The race walker's body maintains a vertical constant level. In running, the trunk rises and falls appreciably.

Now, what does the definition of walking (IAAF Rule 101) require of the race walker?
1. Firstly, that he keeps contact with the ground and, secondly, that his supporting leg is straight when it rises while he is in the vertical position.
2. Continuous contact has traditionally been considered to clearly distinguish walking from running. This is certainly true in the forward half of the movement when the forward heel is clearly placed down before the rear toe is raised. But it is not so clear in the moment of contact. As speed increases, the brief moment of contact becomes shorter. The impact is so brief that it is just the eye to decide whether contact has been made or not. Films are projected at 24 frames per second, yet in running it is also less than a second. If this is not a new phenomenon, it has been highlighted in recent reports, and it is not impossible that the same incident could happen in a race walk. However, due to the great improvement in the fitness and suppleness of modern race walkers, this has been maintained over 20km and beyond which has not naturally for a reason to run.
3. The race walker's stride is the most consistent of all walkers and will certainly not be for less than one hundred of a second.2
4. The camera frame frequency on run is 25 frames per second.
5. This is a new phenomenon, and if it has been highlighted in recent reports, it is not impossible that the same incident could happen in a race walk. However, due to the great improvement in the fitness and suppleness of modern race walkers, it is possible to maintain a stride of 20km and beyond which has not naturally for a reason to run.
6. The race walker's stride is the most consistent of all walkers and will certainly not be for less than one hundred of a second.2
7. The camera frame frequency on run is 25 frames per second.
8. This is a new phenomenon, and if it has been highlighted in recent reports, it is not impossible that the same incident could happen in a race walk. However, due to the great improvement in the fitness and suppleness of modern race walkers, it is possible to maintain a stride of 20km and beyond which has not naturally for a reason to run.
9. The race walker's stride is the most consistent of all walkers and will certainly not be for less than one hundred of a second.2
10. The camera frame frequency on run is 25 frames per second.

Finally, a different British view from Athletics Weekly, Julian Hopkins in a National coach.

Personal View

By Julian Hopkins

SHOULD 'LIFTERS' BE DISQUALIFIED?

In a recent Article entitled 'Time to stop dodging the issue: 'Lifters' must be disqualified,' (Athletics Weekly, April 26th, Colin Young considered the phenomenal improvement in performance which has taken place in race walking in the last 20 years. While admitting that greatly increased training loads and a more scientific approach have played their part, he singles out the failure of race walkers to keep contact with the ground as the factor mainly responsible for the revolution in standards.

I agree with the conclusion of that article, but disagree with Colin Young's solution, 'Lifters must be disqualified.' Let me explain that in my opinion, it is the definition of walking which is outdated.