MEXICAN DOMINATION ENDED

After four years of complete domination of International race walking by the strong Mexican contingent, the Moscow Olympics marked a nearly complete reversal in their form, as you may have noted in our partial results last month. In the 20 km, reigning champion Daniel Bautista was getting all he could handle from the host country's Anatoly Solomon who was neck and neck with him as they neared the Stadium finish. Then, dramatically, Bautista was pulled by the judges with but 800 meters to go, apparently leaving the way clear for Solomon. When he too was pulled, Maurizio Damilano, who had walked brilliantly in staying close throughout and in dropping Soviet Pyotr Potschenchuk in the last 5 km sailed on to a well deserved win in Olympic record time. Although Damilano's 1:23:26 seems rather pedestrian by the past year's "standards", it was excellent in light of the apparently tight judging and high temperature (mid 80's). He left the rest of the strong field well spread out behind him.

As to the Mexican threat, Domingo Colin was also disqualified while in fifth place after 10 kilometers and surprise starter, Raul Gonzalez, came sixth in a time not much better than he often does on his way to 50.

Bautista, as usual, set the pace, going through the first 5 km in 20:25. Right with him were young Czech Josef Pribilinco and the third Soviet walker, Yevgeny Yevsyukov. Colin and another Czech, Yumai Runcik were also at 20:35 and another five walkers, including Damilano, were just 1 second back. The field broke up over the next 5 km, but at 10 Bautista, Damilano, Solomon, Colin, and Potschenchuk all had 40:25. Pribilinco was well off the pace by this time, and eventually folded completely, taking nearly 10 minutes for his final 5 km.

At 15 km Bautista and Solomon were together in 52:20, with Damilano just 10 seconds back. The Italian in turn was only 3 seconds ahead of Potschenchuk. Yevsyukov was a second ahead of Sweden's Bo Gustafsson, walking the pace of his life, but they were more than a minute behind the four leaders. Gustafsson suffered the same fate as Bautista and Solomon at about the same point, ending his strong effort.

With a field of 24 starting, only eight walkers were able to break 1:30. There were seven disqualifications and hopefully this indicates a return to more judicious enforcement of the written rules of the sport.

In the 50, Gonzalez either did not try to, or was unable to, open up on the field in his usual manner. As a matter of fact, when he passed 10 km in 55:44 he was only in sixth with eventual winner Hartwig Gauder and Soviet ace Yevgeniy Ivenko a half minute ahead. Putting in a hard effort over the next 10, Gonzalez was even with Gauder and Spain's Jorge Logart at 20 in 1:29:15, with Ivenko, his teammate Firsov, and Bautista, making a rare appearance at 50, 9 seconds back. Gonzalez continued to force the pace, but couldn't shake the determined Gauder as they went through 25 in 1:52:02 and
Another few were disqualified. Full results of the 10 km races follow.

Left on his own, Gauder, primarily a 20 km specialist before this year, cruised to the win, again in Olympic record time. Llopart was now a minute and a half back and threatened Ivchenko, confirming his form as one of the world’s best at the distance. Sweden’s Bengt Simonsson walked his best race since his days as a top junior and was threatening Ivchenko for the bronze medal over the last 20 km. A distinct disappointment in both races, along with the Poles, was Finland’s Reima Salonen. After leading at 20 in 1:31:12, he dropped out at 30 in 13th place at 30 km. Australia’s Will Sawall was also unable to duplicate the form he has shown for the past year, managing only 4:08:25, although that sufficed for 8th place as.

Additional results:

Golden 1 Hour, Bic, France, A.A. 17 (Not run high 80’s) -- Robert Weaver, USA 1:14:13.

Other International Results:

Golden 1 Hour, Bic, France, A.A. 17 (Not run high 80’s) -- Robert Weaver, USA 1:14:13.

Julian Hopkins comments in Athletics Weekly (reprinted in these pages last month) regarding abolishment of the contact rule in walking have, not surprisingly, evoked a number of critical comments. The following letter from Jim Hanley, for example, saves me the trouble of trying to be clever in responding to Julian's comments. Jim has it put very well:

Dear Jack,

I recently read Julian Hopkins' article (not a new definition of race walking) with interest. I immediately went out and—using that style—did a 5:10 mile. Please recognize this fantastic performance. I apologize for not breaking five minutes, but I am really out of shape.

If Mr. Hopkins was a police chief in a town with a rash of bank robberies, he would solve the problem by declaring bank robbery to be illegal—by solving an obviously false argument that videotape juggling is impractical because you would have to video tape each walk during the entire race and analyze each tape frame by frame. Using such logic, you would insist that when the tape methods we have to provide a judge for each block and have him watch the walk during the entire race, and since judges could vary in the watch the walk during the entire race, and since judges could vary in the eyes of the same judge... .

Come on now! Videotaping is the only practical way of judging our sport! Mr. Hopkins' ideas are outdated.

Jim Hanley

P.S. At the 1960 U.S. Olympic Training Camp, Coach Bruce McDonnell took high speed movies of race walkers doing 13 second 100 yard dashes, equal to 3:48 miles per hour, totally on the ground! So much for the argument that today's men are going so fast that they cannot maintain contact!

Billier: I have seen the film Jim refers to and have mentioned it in these pages in this issue. (Although I thought they were going at something like 10-12 miles per hour for 100 meters, still well under 5 minute miles and certainly less than a 5:10 mile.) The good indication that contact can be maintained at very high speeds.

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Italy's Maurizio Damilano is seen winning the Olympic 20 Km title in Moscow. No one can criticize his style from this photo. (UPI Photo courtesy of Elliott Denman)

1980's other Olympic titlist, East Germany's Hartwig Gauder, winner of the 50 Ks. (Photo from Athletics Weekly)

Early Action in the TAC 1980 10 Ks Championship at Chicago's Stagg Field. Marcel Jobin leads Ray Sharp, Chris Hansen, Steve Pecinovskiy, and Dan O'Connor. (Photo courtesy of Carolyn Jacobs' Instamatic)
today's super strong men to achieve added distance. High jumping techniques have moved from the scissors, to the Eastern roll, Western roll, stiltwalk, and flop, but a very basic rule has remained unchanged—you have to take off one foot. Gymnasts doing things like double back somersaults are known to be clear in the air time over 8 feet, but they aren't allowed in high jump contests unless they can learn to do it off of one foot. Many years ago, some middle-distance runners allowed themselves to travel part of the leg off of one foot and were penalized for it. Ma.ny years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Cronin doing it, and others had to be called by the referees. Many years ago, some one footers continued to take off one foot. Croni
is failing as a race walker. I can understand Julian's frustration with the international scene, but to change the rules would destroy walking. Julian must rescue those who walk more slowly and maintain contact, and possibly even look unimpressive. Without them there would be no internationals."

When the IAAF Race Walking Committee met in Moscow, there was apparently no discussion of this issue—at least not formally. The value of race walking seminars in Boras, Sweden (reported in the ONW) and Faenza, Italy was recognized and the Chairman proposed that such frank discussions be widened. Indications from the Olympics themselves are, of course, that judging on the international level may tighten up. In the meantime, let’s keep our feet on the ground.

FORFORTHCOMING COMPETITIVE EXPERIENCES IN THE HEEL AND TOE SHORT

Sun. Sept. 13--TNPUSA 10 km, West Concord, Mass., 12 noon (Y)

Sun. Sept. 15--5 km Mile, Van Nuys, Cal., 9:30 a.m. (D)

Sun. Sept. 16--30 km, Columbia, Mo., 6:30 a.m. (M)

Sat. Sept. 20--1 Hour Walk, Trois Rivieres, Quebec (Y)

Sat. Sept. 27--100 Mile, Columbus, Ohio 14th Annual, 1 p.m. (M)

Sun. Sept. 28--20 km, Los Angeles (Followed by gala Halloween party), 7100 (T)

Sun. Oct. 1--5 km, Dearborn, Michigan, 10 a.m. (W)

Sun. Oct. 2--5 km, Detroit (W)

Sun. Oct. 1--10 km, Guelph, Ontario (Q)

Sat. Oct. 1--10 km, Columbus, Ohio, 9 a.m. (M)

Sun. Oct. 2--5 km, Detroit (W)

Sat. Oct. 2--2 Hour Walk, Westwood, Cal., 9 a.m. (D)

New York City Marathon Race Walk Division (2)

Sun. Oct. 2--ushers, Ottawa, Ont., 9 a.m. (O)

Sat. Oct. 2--5 km, Detroit (W)

Fri. Oct. 3--20 km, Los Angeles (Followed by gala Halloween party), 7:30 (O)

Sat. Nov. 1--NATIONAL ATTAINMENTS CONGRESS 100 MILE, GUNA VILLA, CA, ROOM (Y)

Sat. Nov. 2--5 Mile, Elmhurst, Ill. (O)

CONTACTS:

--John Evans, 5420 N. Beaswood, #445, Houston, TX 77096

--John Kelly, 1024 Three States, Santa Monica, CA 90404

--Paul Lightsey, 2900 E. 16th St., Greeley, CO 80631

--New York Walkers Club, 445 E. 103rd St., New York, NY 10028

--Joe D'Onofrio, 1150 Maple Bluff Dr., Columbus, OH 43201

--Dave Eldahl, Box 72, Richland, ID 99145

--Stafford Wadlow, 60 Southport St., Apt. 723, Toronto, Ont. M6B 1G9, Can.

--Paul Hendricks, 220 C St., Chula Vista, CA 92010

--Marcel Jobin International, 616 Croissant Dauphin, St. Louis de Terrebonne, Quebec 1M0, Canada

LOOKING BACK

10 Years Ago (From the Aug. 1979 OYW)--In a dual meet in Toronto, the U.S. bested Canada, with races at 20 km and 20 Miles, both on the track. In the 20 km Ronal Jaitil pulled away after 8 km to win in 1:35:14, with John Knifton and Roy Thompson completing a sweep. Ronal Jaitil had won the 10 km the previous day. In Moscov brought the OYW to a close, but the Canadian team didn’t best everyone the next day as he did the first 20 km of the 20 mile in 1:34:45, hoping for a world record. However, he slowed considerably from there and finished in 2:37:20, 68 minutes ahead of Alex Oakley, who just edged Roy Thompson. Canada’s Bob Steadman took fourth in 2:56:23, ahead of Helmut Bruns of Germany. Indications from the 1979 Games were, of course, that judging on the international level may tighten up. In the meantime, let’s keep our feet on the ground.

FROM HELM TO TOE

Judges added to the International Panel at the IAAF Race Walking Committee meeting in Moscow included Frank Alonzi, Elliott Denman, Larry Larson, and Bob McKinley from the U.S. Also among those added was Nikolai Sima of the USSR, one of the world’s top 20 km competitors in the 1980s. Also at that meeting the selection of Morelia, Mexico for the 1981 Invictus Cup races was finalized. A bit of history from Larry Larson: The first walking race in Olympic history is generally listed as the 10 km in Stockholm in 1912, won by Sweden’s E.T. Goulting in 46:28.4. However, the 1908 Games in St. Louis included an All-Around competition—a 10 event contest over a single day that was part of the National championship picture in this country until sometime in the 1950s. (Your editor competed back in 1955.) The All-Around included an 880-yard walk, which in 1908 was won by Thomas Key in 3:39. That apparently was actually the first walk in the Olympics. Larry has also found that the first state high school track and field champ
At the distance. I think those who bid on the National in the future should "come-on" with firme entries from Canada and Mexico, and there should be good competition, perhaps Master, and possible Junior. They already have confirmed entries from Canada and Mexico, so there should be good competition.

For further information write Dr. Robert Miller, Physical Education Department, Florida International University, Miami, Florida 33199. Phone (305) 699-5520. The address in Ali Wood, Regency House, 3453, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444?

For those who take their spring vacations in Northern Europe, note the following opportunities for competition among the tulips. (I don't think you have to be a member of a tulip club to go.) At Edam, Holland, on May 23 and 24, there will be 100 mile event, 100 kilometer event, and a "pleasant walk of about 25 kilometers." Address inquiries for further information to O.L.A.T., Reclam 266, 5600 AE Cadrold, Holland.

Soccer is upon the Mortlands again with the fall season starting and we never told you about the great success of the Holland youth teams coached by Marty and Jack and including Derick. Twelve wins and three losses in the season, including Continental Championships in the second season. A tough season but they were still aiming in some goals and things look much better for his team this fall. Meanwhile, he brought home a free ball from the Big Red soccer team at Denison U. for his skill and abilities for the second summer running.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR—A Cry For Help

As a chairman of racewalking for 6 years and an official for 4 years, I have had the enjoyment of watching age group racewalking grow, grow, and grow. But now comes the time I recognize you out there, know a boy and a girl who have worked hard and trained for this event who are entering college.

Coming up through the age group programs they have excelled like your children to become national champions, too.

As I talked to the parents of this young man and woman, I could see in their eyes the realization that they have had, now that they are out of the age group what lies ahead in college.

As I explained the college programs to them and their son, I saw a tear run down his face. Now is the time to get in touch! How awful it must feel. I know out there somewhere, other boys and girls and their parents are facing this same problem.

I know of the lonely hours they spend on their training, the meets they go to and the walks are conducted either before or after the other track events and in some age group meets, no walks at all. I know of meets where there are no age group meets, no walks at all. I know of meets where no official was available to conduct the walks, so they were dropped. But even through all of this, the walkers still participate.

To all of you young walkers, college walkers, coaches, and master walkers, and all of us, I need your help. We are working here in the Midwest to encourage the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to host this event in the Invitational and dual meets. I am asking for this help not only for these freshman walkers, but for all of you college bound walkers and young walkers coming up and you parents of these walkers, help us so we can help you and yours when they will conduct a Division I or II or III. Send letters and post cards to Tom Spoelstra, South Stadium, U. of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68503 c/o Dick Ballinack. Thanks to those who have already helped: Bob Bowser, Benny Wagner, Dean Ingrain, Mario Evinek, Larry Darison, Benny Mclean, Father Patrick O'Byrne, and Bob Kitchen.