The first weekend in November saw two National Athletics Congress race-walking titles decided. In San Diego, Paul Hendricks not only hosted the 100 mile championship, he walked off with the title in American record time—18:49:52. On the other side of the country—Long Branch, New Jersey, to be exact—Dan O'Connor withstood a strong challenge from Ray Sharp to take the 40 km race in 3:12:41.

Hendricks, coming back from semi-retirement following last year's 100 miler in Columbia, was unphased by hot weather (high 80's at the start) and the presence of Allen Price, known for his fast early pace. Paul went out faster than even Allen cares to travel, hitting 5 miles in 44:19 and 10 in 1:31:18. Price was only 2:21 back at that point, but the lead grew quickly from there and Hendricks was never seriously challenged.

The real surprise in the race was Jonathan Rem, walking for only 9 months. Starting slowly, he passed Price just before 25 miles. At that point, he was 25 minutes behind Hendricks, still blazing along with a 4:00:26. The lead grew only slightly over the next 25 miles, with Paul going through 50 in 8:30:12 and Rem in 9:06:40. Price had 9:12:52 and was being challenged by the tough veteran, Leonard Busen, just 5 minutes back.

Rem started to close on Hendricks, feeling the effects of his fast early pace, and closed the gap to less than 21 minutes by 80 miles. Price was now an isolated third, with Dave Hugener having passed Busen. Rem then ran into difficulties of his own, losing about 12 minutes over the next 10 miles before coming on again to get the final margin down to a half hour. Rem's time has been bettered only by Hendricks and Price among U.S. walkers. (Note: Larry Young walked 18:07:12 in 1971 on a 220-yard indoor track when floodlike conditions hit Columbia. Not being on a quarter-mile track, it is not recognized as a record, but is obviously a more significant accomplishment than the recognized performances.) Hugener had no trouble holding off Busen for fourth with Dale Sutton, Robert Marshall, and Elsie McCa rvey also going the distance. It was the second time for Elsie and she remains the only female U.S. Centurion. Rem, Sutton, and Marshall joined the Centurion ranks. It was number eight for Busen, moving him ahead of Chuck Hunter, and number six for Price. More significantly, it was Allen's third 100 miler in less than 4 months, with a 100 and a 75 km race in the same period. Hendricks finished his third 100 miler, improving his best time from 19:10:37 and Hugener did his second.


(Nay, typewriter, why do you do that?)
Sharp continued to open his lead as he passed 10.

In Long Branch, Hay Sharp kept out after his fifth title of the year and...

Km 0.5 2 (trac k), -1. Svetlana Kirpitsenko 2:18:38.8 2. Pol-

Km 0.5 4. Rick Kent 6 mi 121 3. Larry Mckinney 9 mi 2, 109.49


Km, which has apparently been verified as correct distance- -9, Alek-


Km 0.7 3 Italian 50 Km Championship, Cascina.,...

Km, Minsk, USSR Sept. 21-1. Aleksandr Volkov 1:25:47 Women's 20 Km Cha-


Km, Eng. 1 Sept. 13-1. B. Lupton 2:54 Additional finishers in Moscow 50 Km of May 23, which has apparently been verified as correct distance-9, Alek-


Km, which has apparently been verified as correct distance- -9, Alek-


Km, Eng. 1 Sept. 13-1. B. Lupton 2:54 Additional finishers in Moscow 50 Km of May 23, which has apparently been verified as correct distance-9, Alek-


FROM HEEL TO TOE

Brian Adame 49:12

Chuck Hunter was missing from this year's 100 miler in Columbia after finishing it for 7 years in a row. He had to make a decision to stop counting in the 100 miler. He sent a letter to race director, Joe Duncan, in which he said: "This is probably one of the toughest decisions I've made in my life. I hate the thought of not being able to compete in the Missouri 100 mile race."

Chuck and Len Busen tied the record of seven in a row. He also mentioned to me that they were able to get the kidney going again. So, the race went on with some difficulties after 50 miles. When I got home, I thought I was recovering from a bad flu. After four days, my kidney was not working. I only have the one kidney, so I was in real trouble. After several days in the hospital and medication, mostly blood thinner, they were able to get it working again. The doctors surmised that I had completely dehydrated in the 100 mile race. I did turn loose muscle tissue in my leg. This tissue was blocking the kidney and causing it to clog up.

I took liquid almost every lap and this was really a surprise to me. They said I shouldn't chance doing another 100 miler as next time I may not be able to get the kidney going again." So, the race went on without Chuck and Len Busen tied the record of seven in a row. While on the subject of the 100 miler, the following poem was penned by Centurion Bob Gragg, who made it six in a row this year:

NEVER AGAIN

(A Tribute To The Centurions)

Never again! I heard them say
When last they finished the 100th mile.
Never again! I heard them say
Yet they're back again with a smile.

What breed of people these Centurions,
What brings them back to begin
Another journey into the night
That never seems to end.
What breed of people these Centurions, Wally's hind legs and all, And the chilling and the agony That makes you feel so old.

What breed of people these Century masters That endure the stress and pain Of many miles and countless steps And thoughts that enter the brain.

Like my right knee hurts, That blister is severe, Maybe I should stop and rest awhile-- Or try again next year.

But when it's finally over And the Centurions have given their all, Never again! I heard they say-- But they'll be back next fall.

From one who knows...Bob Gragg

And still on ultra-distance people, England's Ann Sayer, who has done so well over 100 miles, did the 837 mile 'Lands End to John O'Groats' in 13 days 17 hrs 40 min, beating the previous women's best by over three days. This is an average of over 60 miles a day for better than 2 weeks. Colin Young, in Athletics Weekly, has the following report on the current status of the Mexican race walking program. Following their almost complete success in the Olympic walk, there have been varied opinions expressed regarding the future of Mexican walkers and their Polish coach, Jerzy Hauslaver. According to Ron Isard, now living in Mexico City, Daniel Bautista has retired and is working in his home town of Monterrey as a policeman, but has opened a walking club and is coaching Domingo Collin, who has recently married and is undecided about continuing in the sport, while Raul Gonzales is still on vacation! Following the Olympics, other members of the elite squad are training in Monterrey, as are 20 or so Juniors, who are still putting in the, now familiar, murderous daily sessions. However, Hauslaver, who has family illness problems, has stated that if he does not get the financial help he wants to continue his training program, he will seriously consider leaving the country. With the Igmano Final scheduled to be held in Mexico next September, one would assume that considerable pressure would be put on Hauslaver, Bautista, Gonzales, and co., to be available so that the host country will be firm favorites to retain the championship. It will be interesting to see how things will develop, in what has become the 'professional' walkers Mecca... Alan Wood reports in his newsletter, The Master Walker, that Gordon Wallace has volunteered to do World Masters walking records. He says, "I met with Palle Jassen, Chairman of the IAAF Masters committee, who agrees it would be appropriate and desirable." He proposed that we begin by contacting an appropriate representative from each nation being represented at the Championships (World Masters) at Christchurch. Gordon has further thoughts on how to get this going. It is a tremendous project, and hopefully we can all support him.

Send pertinent foreign results and marks to Wallace at 102 Aztec St., Prescott, AZ 86301. And those old folks (Master, if you will) out there who might be interested in Alan's monthly sheet can write him at Regency House, Rn 255, Pomponio Palms, MJ 92680. Paula Kasha's letter of last month regarding the women's International in August, has brought some rebuttal, which in fairness, I must publish. Two letters follow.

From Bruce MacDonald

This is an answer to the letter of Paula Kash about the Women's World Championship held at Syracuse, N.Y. To hold the competition required overcoming many problems. The first company that said they would sponsor the Championship backed out after 2 months of talks. The representative of the company kept adding more and more frills so that the competition would have been the best ever. The only problem was that the owner of the company said it was too expensive. Three other companies were contacted and they said they would not do it. Then the greatest promoter of New York State was contacted and he said he thought he had one or two companies that would be interested in sponsoring the meet. They were until they received pressure from the Federal government because of the Olympic boycott. Because the competition was international they decided not to sponsor the meet. Therefore, New York State and the Women's sub-committee Chairman for race walking the meet. New York State also found a great sponsor for the prizes in Gannon along with T-shirts for each competitor.

To answer the five statements of Paula Kash one by one:

1. Yes, there was a 5 and 10 kilometer women's walk and also a high school 3 km walk for girls being held as part of the N.Y. State Empire Games. Paula said that those in the Empire Games should have been interested in the International meet. Well, they were. All the lap counters and runners for the girls were those competing in the Empire Games. Some of the male walkers helped out also. Some of the people watching were female and male walkers. Paula did not know the competitors so therefore she did not recognize them.

Some of the girls were competing at 5 a.m. the next morning and had to get up at 4 a.m. to dress and eat so they did not stay that long to watch. One person who did watch was Pat Rico (former Women's AAU T & F chairperson and now U.S. Women's IAAF representative). Pat said she was impressed with the competition and that is important.

2. The uniform sizes were sent into AAU House, where TAC has its headquarters. Paula was on a previous National Team, so her size is on file and the right size was sent in. The sweatshirts the team members received are worth $89.99, minus the USA on the back. If the suit was too big, did Paula try to see if she could obtain another one her size by contacting AAU House or Eric Dennis, Women's NACO Chairperson, or anyone?

3. According to the girls from California, Paula was traveling with Vicki Jones and her husband to New York City and then driving with them to Syracuse. Therefore, no one knew when and where she would arrive.

4. Paula wrote that each girl received $150 regardless of whether she was from the East or West coast. Enclosed you will find a copy of Sue Lierse-Westerfield's check for $25. (Oh, I did.) The checks were not the same. I don't know where she received her information.

5. If the judging was weird it follows the IAAF rules. When a person is involved in the report, it is their responsibility to learn the rules, which will govern them. The rules that were used were explained to the girls before each race. The girls were nervous, so they may not have heard them. The (rules used) do not say anything about a warning unless the competitors' code of progression is in danger of being diluted with the definition of walking. The Irish was very close to the end of the competition and then she left right after she finished the race and therefore could not be told until later...

When people write letters to be published, they must gather the facts first so that can give a clear and correct picture.

From Leigh Pollet (in which he also addresses the ongoing lifting controversy)

I would like to add a few comments to the "lifting controversy" First, as human beings, we are not perfect. We make mistakes. In football, many times the "instant replay" shows that the officials made a "wrong" call. In basketball, the instant replay many times will show a foul that the officials
and so on. In racewalking, many times judges will miss a call—and many times they will not.

I believe that just a straight leg rule will destroy the competitors’ intent to walk (i.e., maintain contact and walk, not run) and permanently change the sport—much to walking’s detriment. I also feel that while videotaping provides an easy answer, it also provides a like amount of problems—and is not the solution (with current technology).

Further, in regard to the letter from Paula Kash—I was one of the judges at the Women’s International events held in conjunction with the Empire State Games in Syracuse. I take exception to two points in her letter.

First, at least half (10-15) of the women entered in the Empire Games (as well as a great many of the male competitors) watched the international races. True, they all could have, but Ms. Kash’s assertion that only one or two girls from the island TC came out to watch is a major understatement (and besides, this is a free country—we cannot demand that people attend an event).

The second point is in response to Ms. Kash’s statement that the judging was “pretty weird.” Rarely, if ever, can a competitor judge another competitor in the same race (only a judge can get down on the ground, block out the misleading upper body motions, and concentrate on contact and膝 lock). Is Ms. Kash special? Her comment, “Girls off the ground got home scoot free.” has no basis in fact—especially from her viewpoint.

Pertaining to her comments about the Irish competitor, it was not known if she had been disqualified until after the race and the head judges cards were tallied with the rest.

Finally, even though the race was sometime ago, I do remember Ms. Kash’s participation in that first GC (and I believe she did have a white flag). She complained that it was because one of the judges had a personal grudge against her! When she was informed that all of the judges had caught proceeding illegally, she complained about the quality of the judging. With Ron Daniel, Bruce McDonald, Bill Oelrichen, Gary Westerfield in addition to myself, judging, there was probably 100 years of cumulative experience between us on that track.

YOUR MONTHLY ORW LISTING OF POTENTIAL COMPETITIVE EXPERIENCES IN THE WORLD OF RACE WALKING (A rather brief list this month since we haven’t received such in the way of schedules for 1981)

Sun. Dec. 19—7 Mile Handicap, Valley College, Cal., 2 p.m. (D) 5 and 10 km, Toronto, 10 a.m. (Q) 10 km, Long Branch, N.J., 1 p.m. (L) Sat. Dec. 20—4 Mile Men, 2 Mile Women, Newton, Iowa, 2 p.m. (Q) 10 Mile, Columbia, Mo., 6:30 a.m. (H) Sun. Dec. 21—50 km, Houston, 8 a.m. (C) Sun. Dec. 22—5 Mile Men, 3 Mile Women, Brightwaters, N.Y., 2 p.m. (Q) Sun. Dec. 28—10 km, St. Louis, 9 a.m. (S) Wed. Dec. 31—6 Mile Handicap, Springfield, Ohio 7:30 p.m., or so (U) 4 Mile, Detroit (at least according to tradition) (W) Thu. Jan. 1——4 Mile Handicap, 10 km, Washington, D.C., 16 noon (Y) Sun. Jan. 11—3 Km Men, 1.5 Km Women (Indoors), Toronto (Q) Sat. Jan. 17—25 km, Miami, Fla. (P) Sun. Jan. 25—5 km and 10 km, Toronto, 11 a.m. (Q)

CONTACTS
O—John Evans, 9401 N. Erskinewood #952, Houston, TX 77096
D—John Kelly, 1024 Third St., Santa Monica, CA 90403
L—Elliott Domain, 28 N. Locust, West Long Branch, NJ 07764
N—Joe Duncan, 2980 Maple Bluff Dr., Columbus, OH 43221
N—Sal Corallo, 19031 Great Northern, Caithness, MD 20760

LOOKING BACK (A feature we neglected last month, so we’ll make it up this time)

10 Years Ago (From the Oct. and Nov. 1970 ORWs)—East Germany won their third Lugano Trophy. Hase-Gregg Belmann was too strong for Soviet ace Vladimir Golubchikov on the final lap. 30 km and won the 20 in 1:26:54.6. With five men still in it at 15 km, Reimann spread them out by just maintaining the fast pace he had throughout. Christoph Kohne also walked even pace in the 30 and left Vedran Soldatenko of the USSR behind by 2 ½ minutes back in the 4:04:35.

Larry Walker won his first National title covering 7 mi 1500 yd in an hour. In Walnut, California, Ron Laird was left well over a lap behind and Bill Bawden won the 100 meter for John Kelly for third. Laird came back a week later to beat Bawden by 3 minutes in the 30 km at Atlantic City in 2:19:17. They were followed by Ray Sonner and Jerry Benson.

On Long Island, Steve Hayden negotiated a 1:26:51.6 for 20 km on the track. Larry O’Neill walked his second 100 meter in Columbus in 20:52:42. For the first time there was a record finisher, Canada’s John Argo. Ted Allop won the Australian 50 km in 4:21:05 at age 45.

In Seattle, Goetz Klopfer walked an American record 2:33:59.8 for 20 miles, also garnering records at 15 miles (1:24:47), 25 km (1:58:18), 2 hours (15 mi 1:92 yds), and 30 km (2:13:14).

In the Airolo-Chicago relay, the U.S. team of John Knifton, Tom Dooley, Ron Kullik, Goetz Klopfer and Dave Romansky won easily over Sweden and Italy with 8:56:39.

On an indoor track in London, Larry O’Neill walked his second 100 meter in just over a month with a time of 40:32. The Northland produced another wonder two on Nov. 6, none of Scott Allen. In the Cincinnati Thanksgiving Day Race (6 miles, but short), Wayne Yeargo edged Dave Romansky from 3:45:40 to 40:10 followed by Dale Arnold and Clair Duval.

Jerry Benson won two races at the OTC Distance Carnival with 1:25:40 for 10 miles and 1:31:44 for 2 miles, as your editor held a watch and clipboard on the 15 mile run. Dave Romansky won the best 10 mile in Long Branch, 1:26:55 to 1:38:33. In Los Angeles, Larry Walker turned in a super-fast 6:10.3 for 1 mile, with Jim Hanley just 6 seconds back.

The Cayuga Island 10 Mile Handicap went to Bill Backulich in 1:23:50 with first time to John Knifton in 1:35:18. Christoph Rohne walked a great 9:26:11 for 100 km in Lugano, but missed his own course record by more than 10 minutes. Paul Lacy was fifth behind two other East Germans and German Weider of West Germany...Ray Middleton, 1964 British Olympian, won the International Postmen’s 15 Km in 1:23:03, but an era passed when it was hard to follow. On Jan. 15, 1981 Mark Achen won the AAU Combined Nov.-Dec. issue and we will be repeating this in a month with a time of 40:32. Peter Holcomb and Chris Rohne were on top of the ORW’s First Annual Rankings of the world’s walkers. In the 20, it was an all Eastern European affair as East Germany’s Reimann and Spiering were second and sixth with three Soviets, Golubchikov, Sargsian, and Agapov sandwiched between. Even more so at 50 with Soldatenko, USSR, Leuschke, BG, Selzer, BG, Bartosch, USSR, Skotnicki, BG, and Jezin, USSR following Rohne. Dave Romansky was 10th at 20 km.
5 Years Ago (From the Oct. and Nov. 1975 ORWs)--The USSR stopped East Germany's string of four straight Lugano Cup Championships, winning at Toulon, France. The East Germans led by 7 points after the 20 km and then fortunes turned in the 50. The Soviets appeared to have a lock on the title with three of the first five at 35 km of the 50, when Soldatenko was tossed, putting East Germany in good shape. Then Ralf Knutter, walking second at 45 km, also got the heave, and the East Germans were again out of it. West Germany actually emerged as top team at 50 after the DQs and, along with the British, finished just 3 points back of East Germany overall. The 20 went to East Germany's Karl Heinz Stadtmuller in 4:26:11.8, followed closely by West Germany's Bernd Kannenberg, Peter Frenkel, Otto Britsch, USSR, Vittorio Vinini, Italy, and Brian Adams of Great Britain, still in 4:27:46. Yevgeniy Lyungin won the 50 in 4:43:41.6, well clear of West Germany's Gerhard Weidner. The U.S. finished last in the competition with Jerry Brown and John Knifton DQ'd at 20. Bob Kitchen was the top finisher with 1:34:15 in 25th. Augie Hirt finished 21st at 50 in 4:31:15. In a Women's International 5 km held at the same time, Sweden won easily, led by Margareta Elsmo in 21:46.6. Sue Brodock was 5th, but it was a bad day for the U.S. teamwise here too, as they wound up sixth of eight teams. In the Rome-Chicago Relay, the U.S. team of Augie Hirt, Jerry Brown, Paul Ide, Wayne Glusker, and Bob Kitchen finished second to Italy in 9:28:08. In the Pan-American Games 20 km, Daniel Bautista and Domingo Colin swept one-two for Mexico, helped by the Mexico City altitude. Larry Young (1:37:15) was third and Todd Scully fifth. Bautista had 1:33:05.8. At Columbia, Mo., the National 100 km was held in conjunction with the annual 100 miler. Augie Hirt won the shorter race in 1:16:19 with Dave Leuthold and Chuck Hunter following. Hunter went on to win the 100 miler in 2:02:29, with Bob Spier, Leonid Benen, and Bob Gragg also finishing. Dave Baxall did 100 miles in 10:41:48, second to Italy in 9:28:21. Larry Young led the U.S. rankings at 20, followed by Todd Scully, Jerry Brown, Tom Dooley, John Knifton, and Bob Kitchen. Larry also was on top in the 50, where he won the Rational title by 12 minutes. Kannenberg had set a world's at 50 km in October with a 1:36:51 on the track. Another world mark fell to Italy's Vittorio Vinini at 20 miles in 1:27:48.

The next issue will feature the 11th Annual ORW World Rankings at 20 and 50 km, together with the more recently added women's rankings at 5 and 10 km and U.S. rankings for both men and women. Looking back, this has been a very interesting season and I am going to be interested in seeing what I come with. Might be a challenge.