WEIK, EDWARDS SHINE IN EARLY '86 RESULTS

Nothing big happening in the world of race walking yet this year, so we will start right in to the few results we have. Both Tom Edwards, inactive last year, and Lynn Weik have turned in fast miles in the early going.


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**Recent Results**


Sat. Mar. 10 -- 100 K, Pasadena, Calif., 11:00 am (N)

Sat. Mar. 10 -- 5 K, Seattle, Wash., 1:00 pm (N)

Sat. Mar. 10 -- 1 Mile, Boulder, Colo. (K)

Sat. Mar. 10 -- 2 and 4 Mile, Albuquerqu, N.M., 9 am (N)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 16-15 K, Pinellas County, Flor., 8 am (N)

Mon. Mar. 11 -- 3-5 K, Brookton, Mass., 2 pm (L)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 50 K North Section Championship, Houston, 2 pm (J)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- NATIONAL AC WOMEN'S 2 MILE INDOORS, BATON ROUGE, LA. (O)

Sat. Mar. 11 -- 1 Mile, Northeast AC 30 K, Boynton, Mass., 11 am (B)

Sat. Mar. 11 -- 1 Mile, Boulder, Colo. (K)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Pasadena, Calif., 8:30 am (N)

Sat. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Boulder, Colo. (K)

Sat. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Boston, Mass. (L)

Sat. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Houston, Tex. (J)

Sat. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Washington, D.C. (H)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 5 K, Cleveland, Ohio (O)


Sun. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Albuquerque, N.M. (N)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 5 K, Columbus, Ohio (G)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Boulder, Colo., 9 am (O)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Columbus, Ohio (G)


Sun. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Columbus, Ohio (O)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- 10 K, Stanford, Calif. (F)

Sun. Mar. 11 -- NATIONAL AC WOMEN'S 20 KM AND MEN'S 25 KM, KANSAS CITY (I)

**ROCKPORT GRAND WALK SERIES**

In the above schedule, you may have noticed East Zone "Grand Walks" in Washington, D.C. in March. A brief note of explanation, as provided by Randy Mimm in his newsletter to the National Committee:

**Events:** A series of 5 K Fitness Walks and 5/10/20 K National and Regional Race Walk Championships.

**Participants:** Citizens from ages to 60-plus will enjoy the 5 K Fitness Walks and the finest men's and women's race walkers will compete in the national and regional championships.


**Format/Sponsors:** The Rockport Series is to provide elite U.S. walkers with competition and to assist the best by providing training stipends to the top overall performances. The series consists of four events, with the finals being held in Denver. The series will have three events with the finals of the inaugural year being held in Denver in May, 1986. At the completion of each Event, points and stipends will be awarded, with the top six getting points ranging from 10 for first, 7 for second, 5 for third, 4 for fourth, 3 for fifth, and 2 for sixth. Points are awarded for both the 5 and 10/20 K races, so a person can gain a maximum of 20 points for the weekend. The training stipend is $500, $250, $200, $100, and $100. The three men and women will be provided transportation to the next Rockport Series event. If one of the top three cannot make it, the next person in line will receive the expense money. Should there be a tie on cumulative points, the winners will be determined by total elapsed time over the two days. The National Director will arbitrate any disagreement with the Director's decision being final. Additional stipends of the same amount as regional events will be awarded to the overall Series winners and placers at the finals in Denver, provided that the athlete has competed in

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M -- N.M. Race Walkers, 2301 El MoCo Ct., NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
N -- Elaine Ward, 353 W. California Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91105
O -- Daniel Thiel, 1524 Bertha St., New Orleans, LA 70119
P -- Brooks Johnson, Dept. of Athletics, Stanford U., Stanford, CA 94305

Your Future in the Race Walking Sport Hall of Fame. The Rockport Grand Walk Series provides an opportunity to earn points for regional and national championships.
at least two Rockport Grand Walk Regional Championships prior to competing in the finals. In the case of the 85/86 Series, to qualify for additional stipends, an athlete has to have competed in the May 1985 Denver event or the March 1986 Washington, D.C. event, as well as the May 1986 Denver finals. In short, an athlete may enter the Denver finals, however, if he/she has not competed in the required previous additional stipends will not be awarded. All stipends and awards will be paid in accordance with TAC guidelines.

Judging and Courses: Judges and courses will be TAC certified. Decisions of the judges regarding disqualification of a competitor will be final. In the case of disagreements, protests will be handled under TAC guidelines with the decision of the Chief Judge and National Director being final.

Questions: Any questions regarding local sponsorship of the Rockport Grand Walk Series or general questions should go to the National Director being final.

Entry Fees: Entry fees are $10 per day or $15 if a participant enters both days’ events. In the instance of dual entries, only one event T-shirt will be awarded.

Current standings (after the May 1985 Denver Series): Men—Tim Lewis, 15 points, $200; Dave Cummings, 14 points, $150; Jim Heilng, 14 points, $200; Marco Brnovik, 14 points, $100; Todd Scully, 4 points, $100; Gary Morgan, 3 points, $100; Carl Schneider, 3 points, $100. Women—Debbie Lawrence, 9 points, $100; Susan Liers, 7 points, $100; Kathy Owens, 4 points, $100.

An interview of interest lifted from the British publication, Race Walking Record:

Interview with Palle Lassen - Chairman I.A.A.F. Walking Commission

25 September 1985

Douglas, Isle of Man

R.W. Palle, may I welcome you to Great Britain and particularly to the Isle of Man for the Jutland and Esculog Final, and thank you for agreeing to this interview.

You have been at the top of Race Walking for some years. How did it begin for you, particularly as an athlete?

P.L. It began in 1936 and at that time I was walking 10 to 20 kilometres with my club who were fortunate in having two former world record holders. I was the third person in the team, and although I was not the best then they usually had to wear some way behind them and they usually had to wear or meet me on their return journey.

I joined the Army before the War and after the War joined my Copenhagen Club where I found much friendship and we were able to find the same people at the same times. I started to promote friendship in race walking since my last competition in 1962.

R.W. How did you come into administration?

P.L. It commenced with the Helsinki Olympics where I helped a friend who was taking part. He had finished 5th in the European Games and subsequently came 17th or 18th in the Olympics, so I started really in coaching or as a trainer.

I correspond with friends abroad and in 1953 I became President of the International Society of the Danish Track and Field Association. I felt that the personnel were not too sympathetic to walkers so in my Presidential capacity I was able to improve the mutual understanding.

R.W. How did you attain the position of Chairman of the Walking Commission?

P.L. In the mid 50's I attended the Lugano Final at Fieschiano. At that time I was very friendly with the Swedish Walking President. At one of the Commission meetings I asked if I could sit at the back of the hall to listen and this was allowed. I found it most interesting and when the Scandinavian representative, Lindl, retired, I was invited and was very pleased to accept a position within the Commission. I feel that with my family behind me I was able to find the time to give a lot of time to the Walking Committee.

R.W. So when did you become Chairman?

P.L. In 1972.

R.W. What do you consider to be your greatest achievement in Race Walking?

P.L. I feel the greatest achievement we have managed is the acceptance of female walking. At the moment it is only a drop in the ocean but after ten to fifteen years of talking and arguing that female walking should enjoy the same status as other disciplines, we now have female walking in the Pan American Games, the World University Games, the European Games (Junior) and next year the European Senior Championships, and I am sure that female walking is a place and one that we can achieve this.

If one lives a stable life, then one will live long enough to achieve all one's ambitions.

R.W. Many changes have taken place in walking while you have been Chairman. What do you think has been the biggest change?

P.L. The change in the structure of walking, the change in technique and the fight to gain credibility for walking. Walking techniques have changed considerably and with the change have come the problems that some people do not understand the new walking techniques and now we have to fight for credibility. I feel we can achieve this acceptance.

R.W. Where do you stand on the judging issue? Should emphasis be on contact or straight leg, and are we still able to fairly judge contact?

P.L. The problem we mainly have is that of being prepared to use new techniques. We have a need to educate the judges to appreciate the requirements of speed in a similar way to officials in other disciplines. I can give, as an example, the field judge in the javelin and the line judge in tennis. It is true that we can use electrical and other techniques, but we the judges must also act as teachers, to make use of these improved techniques. We also have to accept the responsibility for our own decisions.

Judging, in my opinion, has not kept up with the rate of development in competitive achievement and human performance attainment in the sport. Certainly, when the Americans made the big development, many judges were unable to keep up with them.
I am sure, however, that if we do not accept the responsibility of making judging decisions from what we see with our eyes, then the day will come when, for instance, in a football match, the referee will not be a man in black, but a man in white!

R.W. A few years ago, Britain led the way in the "Keep Walking in the Olympics" campaign. Do you consider walking is in a stronger or weaker position now, and why?

P.L. We are in a stronger position. Events which can be held on the road and roads or fields are gaining in popularity. With the great improvement in individual performances in track and field events, competition for the average person is not so competitive and families and groups are better able to participate in road events. In time, walking will be found to be easier than running. Also, in the main, walking and marathon running have been apart from the doping scandals that have so affected other disciplines in athletics.

R.W. You resigned as Chairman of the Walking Commission before the last Olympics, but then accepted nomination again in Los Angeles. Why was this?

P.L. I believe that with such a position, there should be no division in loyalties. There should be, without doubt, only one candidate, unilaterally agreed, without need of voting. There were three candidates prior to Los Angeles and this was not a healthy situation. I agreed to take on one more period.

R.W. What does this mean?

P.L. I will not continue for another period after Rome.

R.W. Would you then be prepared to spread, shall we say, "the Gospel of Walking" around the World by being a travelling ambassador, and leave the day by day running to another?

P.L. No, I do not think I will do that. I will do all I can to help anyone taking over. People must have time to complete their work. I have been working hard on the booklet "Hints and Instructions for Judges" and I feel this should be completed.

R.W. Whom do you think should be the most likely person to follow you as Chairman?

P.L. You said at the start of the interview that I may not wish to answer all questions and that you would understand. May I now take you up on this offer? I feel I cannot give an answer.

Mrs Lassen I think it will take more than one person to take Palle's place!

R.W. What has been your most enjoyable moment in the sport?

P.L. I think the realisation that my dreams for women's race walking were coming to fruition. The arrival of the Eschborn Cup and the evidence that female walking was growing stronger.

Then, to see the judges mark their own feet and justify themselves in Moscow.

R.W. You must have seen all of the best walkers in the World. Would you be prepared to name a few that rank as the best in your opinion?

P.L. For style, technique, one must think of Gonzalez of Mexico, but I think the walker that I feel has been the greatest for walking, who showed courage and determination, and in Mexico was able to show such admirable discipline and possibly at the same time save the credibility of walking, must be Vladimir Golubnich. He was a wonderful ambassador for walking.

R.W. What changes would you like to see in the future in race walking?

P.L. There is little we need to change. Greater participation and a spread of the great feeling of friendship and harmony that we have in the walking world.

R.W. Thank you, Palle, for a very interesting time with you and your charming wife; which prompts me to ask one last, but very personal question - Palle, how have you managed to persuade such a charming person as your lovely wife to support you over the years in your job and walking? - always by your side?

P.L. Ah! my secret! No, seriously, we have had a happy family life and I feel it important that when one takes any position one should do it with the full backing of the family and that at all times the family should come first.

R.W. Thank you, Palle.

P.L. Perhaps I can comment on how I have been able to carry on. I ask you, can one do work within one's hobby as well as a normal job? I was able to do this because of help from my family. Unfortunately, many young people of today do not believe there is a life beyond themselves.

May I speak a little about doping. I regret that so much money is being used on drugs and I think of all the good work that could be done with this money.

Think of it as two rooms. One room spending enormous sums of money to invent new, more effective and recognisable drugs and the right next door is the second room, another group spending enormous sums of money trying to find ways to stop drugs and detect drugs. It is crazy.

May I have the last word?

Mrs Lassen Do you know how Palle was able to get as far with getting female walking recognised? He talked so much about it that eventually Adrian Paulsen said "Lassen talks so much about women's walking that there must be something in it, so we will have to do something"!

We applaud Mr. Lassen's interest in and support of women's walking and wholeheartedly agree with his assessment of Vladimir Golubnich.
Available from the Athletics Congress; Indoor Track & Field. This 108-page book, which costs $10, contains schedules, indoor records, all-time world indoor lists, USAB/Mobil Indoor Track Grand Prix information, a 1985 season review, and, surprise, an index. It was compiled and edited by Hal Baten and Ed Gordon. 1986 U.S. Athletics Calendar, which contains monthly date, site, and meet contact information for all top events; separate schedules for national championships, IAAF Permit Meets, and IAAF Grand Prix Meets; qualifying standards for the TAC senior and junior championships; and a separate list of state high school championships. The calendar is $15. Also the 1986 Calendar of International Events and the 1986 World Championship Calendar, which are $1 and $3, respectively. Note that all of these publications are devoted to track and field, not just walking.

Order them from: Book Order Department, The Athletics Congress, 6000 S. King Court, Indianapolis, IN 46220. Long-time subscriber John Shilling was inadvertently left out of our listings of the Chicago Island 10-Mile handicap, where he had a 2:04:15, his best race in about 10 years. Another long-time subscriber (except that he didn't renew last fall) was recently named Dental Person of the Year in New York's Eighth District. Dr. Don will be 90 this July. He believes he is the oldest practicing dentist in the Buffalo area. A health enthusiast, he runs walk days and stresses that exercise is responsible for his good health. Having practiced for 68 years already, he has no plans to retire from dentistry. A few additions to our 1985 lists published last month. As you see in our results this month, Bill Ross, who was very active in promoting officiating, was also a high school principal and a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. Also on the U.S. 5K list, Bob LeVeck had a test of 25:55. Bev also had a 5:12:05 for 10K, bettering by about 2 miles the time we had. Bob Jordan reports from his Iowa headquarters that Eastby Running Store, Inc., of Wausau, Wisconsin (124 Washington St., 94100) is amarketing the adidas racewalking shoe for $59.95, plus $2 postage and handling. Eastby's toll free number is 1-800-282-2205 (1-800-472-4406 for those in Wisconsin). Bob says he doesn't get a kick back from Eastby, nor does he charge $62.00 for a pair of shoes, but these are the only specialty shoes available in his size—he has big footsies. On another subject, Bob asks why the Chinese women are so much better, but don't do much in other endurance activities? He adds that the same could be asked of Soviet men.... Bill Ross, who was very active in the promoting, officiating, and judging of walkers in the Chicago area when I first came into the sport, died in November. Bill had been in the Chicago area when I first came into the sport, but he had been confined to a wheelchair. Bill was a Member of the IAAF Judges Committee from 1968 to 1973. According to Mike Ruben, he is the one who should be credited with naming our sport. His suggestion at an AAU Convention was that Race Walking would be a more appropriate term than Heel and Toe Walking eventually caught on. We have learned that Seattle's Dean Ingram, one-time National Chairman, has been named as Assistant Manager for the 1986 U.S. Olympic team. A reader has asked what happened to Gonzalez, Canto, and other Mexicans in this year's World Rankings. Gonzalez apparently has retired. The rest just did not get enough competition to earn spots. Their team was set to compete in the Tucson Cura when the earthquake hit a day or two before departure.

RACING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

A few issues back, we raised a question regarding a race across the U.S. pitting runners against walkers. Who would win if the runners had to run every step and the walkers walk every step. Finally, someone has ventured a reply. Tom Kline, who has walked some distances himself, writes as follows:

You raise a great question about who might win if four runners and four walkers (with appropriate controls on the definition of running and walking) were to race across the country. I have a fair amount of experience with distance walking against runners in several ultra, including two 6-day and one 200 mile race. For what it is worth, here are some thoughts:

1. Runners have a decisive advantage in any long race, if they are well-conditioned, if their bodies hold up, and if they understand the psychology required to endure a multi-day race. There are many outstanding ultra runners who have mastered control of these "ifs." (My good friend Don Choi, Stu Claggett, Glenn Courser, etc.)

2. Since there aren't a lot of Americans walking ultra races, it would be easier to assemble four "qualified" runners that it would be walkers. (But, however, we don't need to limit it to Americans. Bring some Paris-to-Strasbourg veterans.) But a "dream team" who I would pit against any group of American class runners would consist of: Alan Price, Mario Escobedo, Bobby Wise (if he learns to straighten his legs), and one of the following, depending on the state of their mind and body—Jesse Casteneda, Jack Blackburn, Rich Meyers, Bob Davidson, or me (sorry for the vanity).

At any rate, walkers would have a chance of beating runners. Following are some ideas for increasing the probabilities:

- Ensure that the capabilities of the runners and walkers are equal.
- Have good handling.
- Carefully plan food intake; this may be the most important aspect for enduring a cross-country race.
- Have optimum clothing for all weather conditions.
- Bring numerous pairs of shoes. Be aware that the feet swell after a few days and larger sizes will be required.
- Plan rest days.
- Don't have stage races; the runners have too much of an advantage. (Ed. The idea, and maybe it wasn't made clear in the original question, is to see who can get across the country quickest, i.e, on a total time, not elapsed time on the road, basis. If someone can stay out 24 hours a day indefinitely, they will win, whether running or walking.)
- Don't allow the runners to walk, even when eating. (Ed. That's one of the proposed rules of the competition.)
- Count on one or more of the runners dropping out!

LOOKING BACK

20 Years Ago (From the Jan. 1966 ORW)—The mile walk in the LA Invitation—al (won by Ron Laird in 6:38) was held on television, but we had to edit orally chastise CBS for featuring it as some sort of comic relief. John MacLachlan was named National C1 airman to replace the retiring Charlie Silcock. The National Junior (i.e., novice in those days) went to Harry
Kraft in 5:22:34, ahead of Roger Duran. Ron Daniel won a 1 Mile race in New York in 6:34. On the local scene, Jack Blackburn whipped your editor in a 2 Mile (outdoor) on a cold January day, 10:13 to 14:43. Earlier, the second annual New Year's Eve 6-Mile Handicap went to Dr. John Blackburn. Walking in a cold, driving rain, he covered the 1/2-mile loop over a gravel road and mud path in 5:10, holding off two hard-charging Jacks, who started second annual in 85:26, sipping champagne enroute. (See actual race photos below.)

New York in 6:14. On the local scene, John Blackburn whipped your editor Kraft in 5:22:34, ahead of Roger Duran. Ron Daniel won a 1 Mile race in New York in 6:34. On the local scene, Jack Blackburn whipped your editor in a 2 Mile (outdoor) on a cold January day, 10:13 to 14:43. Earlier, the second annual New Year's Eve 6-Mile Handicap went to Dr. John Blackburn. Walking in a cold, driving rain, he covered the 1/2-mile loop over a gravel road and mud path in 5:10, holding off two hard-charging Jacks, who started

10 Years Ago (From the Jan. 1976 ORW)—Ron Laird was announced as the winner of the National 1 Hour postal championship, his 8 mi 612 yard performance edging Todd Scully by just 32 yards. Wayne Glusker did 7 mi 1736 yards and John Knifton 7 mi 1427. Masters winner was Rudy Halyna with 7 mi 841 yards.

5 Years Ago (From the January 1981 ORW)—Doesn't appear to be much exciting news in this issue. Fast miles were 6:20:7 by Evan Fox in New York and 6:18.9 by Todd Scully in Philadelphia. Tim Lewis did 6:25 in the latter. We did carry an item entitled: "Further Commentary on Recent Commentary on Previous Commentary on That Subject Is Receiving a Great Deal of Commentary These Days—Judging".

CONTINUED HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL AAU AND ATHLETICS CONGRESS 20Km WALK (1938 through 1958 appeared last month)

1959, Baltimore, June 14
2. Fred Timcoe, New York Pioneer Club 1:33:21
4. Jack Blackburn, Ohio Track Club 1:35:20
5. Alexander Oakley, Canada 1:35:45

1061, Buffalo, N.Y., June 19
2. Jack Mortland, Ohio Track Club 1:42:17
3. Jack Blackburn, Ohio Track Club 1:44:00
4. Ron Laird, NY Pioneer Club 1:45:07
5. John Allen, Gardentown AC 1:45:20
6. Robert Minn, Penn AC 1:45:05

1962, Chicago, July 8
1. Ronald Zimm, Green & Gold AC 1:43:59
2. John Allen, Gardentown AC 1:44:30
3. Jack Mortland, Ohio TC 1:44:20
4. Jack Blackburn, Ohio TC 1:44:59
5. Ron Laird, New York AC 1:45:04
6. Felix Cabelllo, Can. 1:50:59

1963, Chicago, March 31
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:43:30
3. Alex Oakley, Can. 1:43:56
4. Ake Szekely, USMA/Green 3 Gold AC 1:45:42
5. Jack Mortland, Ohio TC 1:45:33

1964, Pittsburgh, July 5
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:43:49
3. Alex Oakley, Can. 1:43:56
4. Ake Szekely, USMA/Green 3 Gold AC 1:45:42
5. Jack Mortland, Ohio TC 1:45:33

1965, Baltimore, June 20
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:43:38 (course now a full 20 K)
2. Jack Mortland, Ohio TC 1:43:34
3. Dean Rasmussen, NYAC 1:44:35
4. Ron DeNoon, SC Striders 1:45:26
5. Ake Szekely, US Army 1:45:57

1966, McLeanport, Pa., June 18
1. Rudolph Halyna, SC Striders 1:36:16
2. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:37:24
3. Jack Mortland, Ohio TC 1:40:40
4. Ron Daniel, NYAC 1:44:04
5. Bob Kitchen, Chesapeake TC 1:42:06

1967, McKeesport, May 27
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:38:41
2. Larry Young, SC Striders 1:42:10
3. Tom Dooley, Athens AC 1:44:38
4. Larry Walker, SC Striders 1:45:45
5. Jack Mortland, Ohio TC 1:47:08

1968, Long Beach, Cal., June 29
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:33:00
2. Larry Young, SC Striders 1:33:05
3. Don DeNoon, Southern Pacific AAU 1:33:24
4. Tom Dooley, Athens AC 1:33:39
5. Dave Romansky, Philadelphia AC 1:34:33
6. Ray Somers, Baltimore Olympic Club 1:35:39

1969, Pomona, Cal., June 16
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:33:11
2. Tom Dooley, Athens AC 1:35:08
3. Bob Kitchen, 1:36:29
5. Goetz Klopfer, Athens AC 1:40:52
6. John Kelly, Santa Monica AA 1:41:14

1970, McKeesport, May 23
1. Dave Romansky, Delaware T&F Club 1:35:05
2. Tom Dooley, Athens AC 1:36:04
3. Ron Kulik, NYAC 1:39:41
4. Steve Hayden, Long Island AC 1:42:10
5. Goetz Klopfer, Athens AC 1:42:18

1971, San Francisco, May 23
1. Tom Dooley, Athens AC 1:32:18
2. Goetz Klopfer, Athens AC 1:32:38
3. Larry Young, Mid-America TC 1:33:34
4. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:34:26
5. John Knifton, NYAC 1:35:08
6. Floyd Godwin, Colorado TC 1:35:13

1972, Brooklyn, NY April 23
1. Larry Young, Columbia, College 1:32:44
2. Ron Daniel, NYAC 1:34:10
3. Floyd Godwin, Colorado TC 1:34:15
4. John Knifton, NYAC 1:35:12
5. Jerry Brown, Colorado TC 1:36:42
6. Todd Scully, Shore AC 1:37:12

1973, Santa Barbara, Cal., April 15
1. Bill Ramsey, un. 1:34:15
2. Jerry Brown, Colorado TC 1:34:37
3. Bob Kitchen, un. 1:35:02
4. Todd Scully, Shore AC 1:35:14
5. Ray Somers, un. 1:35:47

1974, East Meadow, NY, June 2
1. Jerry Barrow, Colorado TC 1:33:34
2. Floyd Godwin, Colorado TC 1:35:10
3. John Knifton, NYAC 1:35:45
4. Ron Daniel, NYAC 1:36:06
6. Roman Olisiekiw, Can. 1:38:45

1975, San Francisco, June 8
1. Tom Dooley, Golden Gate TC 1:35:12
2. Robert Henderson, U. of Chicago TC 1:36:07
3. John Knifton, NYAC 1:36:15
4. Dave Romansky, Shore AC 1:37:22
5. Bill Ramsey, Golden Gate TC 1:37:48
6. Wayne Grunder, West Valley TC 1:38:41

1976, New York City, May
1. Ron Laird, NYAC 1:33:53
2. Dan O'Connor, NYAC 1:35:41
3. Larry Young, Columbia TC 1:36:15
4. Wayne Grunder, West Valley TC 1:38:10

1977, Seattle, June 5
1. Marco Castro, Mexico 1:30:05
2. Todd Scully, Shore AC 1:30:15
3. Neal Tyke, West Valley TC 1:31:29
4. Candelario Reyes, Mex. 1:31:28
5. Ernesto Canto, Mex. 1:34:01
6. Dan O'Connor, NYAC 1:34:43

1978, Westwood, Cal., June 10
1. Todd Scully, Shore AC 1:34:46 (track)
2. Larry Walker, Tobias Striders 1:35:56
3. Dan O'Connor, NYAC 1:35:19
4. Ron Dooley, West Valley TC 1:37:07
5. Marco Evoniuk, Colorado TC 1:37:38
6. Dave Romansky, Shore AC 1:39:24

1979, Walnut, Cal., June 17
1. Neal Tyke, SSC 1:27:11
2. Todd Scully, Shore AC 1:27:38
3. Chris Hansen, U. of Chicago TC 1:29:16
4. Bob Dooley, West Valley TC 1:37:10
5. Marco Evoniuk, Colorado TC 1:37:42

1980, Redmond, Cal., April 20
1. Dan O'Connor, NYAC 1:26:26
2. John Walker, Tobias Striders 1:35:56
3. Chris Hansen, U. of Chicago TC 1:36:10
4. Larry Walker, Tobias Striders 1:35:19
5. Marco Evoniuk, Colorado TC 1:35:22

1981, Redmond, Cal., April 20
1. Dan O'Connor, NYAC 1:26:26
Let's Slow Drunk Drivers to a Walking

By T. J. Kline Jr.

Racewalking — that old and new sport — had led me to wobble across many long roads and tracks through most of these United States. But, when I was asked to walk the 100 miles from Chicago to Terre Haute, Ind., in support of the Mothers Against Drunk Driving, I was intrigued.

I had read about Candy Lightner, the fiery founder of MADD, and knew of the anguish inflicted by drunk drivers. There was also the excitement of walking through a stretch of America and getting to know the people in the small towns and farmland communities that dot the route through western Indiana.

MADD had organized a March Across America to stimulate awareness of the problems of drunk driving. The Walkers Club of America recruited the foot power for the event from a cadre of former Olympians and other elite racewalkers (myself, an average racewalker, being a notable exception). Each walker would spend a week covering portions of the 4,000-mile route from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C.

By the time I joined the march on the outskirts of Chicago, the walkers had covered almost 3,000 miles and were ready to hit the road for 70 days.

I am an executive. Planning and organizing are my forte. But I racewalked into Chicago dressed in a T-shirt and shorts and carrying a carriage containing hundreds of photographs of American families gathered from states through which the march had passed. At the MADD rally, I listened to a parade of dignitaries, then a young woman stepped to the platform.

"I was a widow before I had a chance to be married," she said. "My husband was killed by a drunk driver. . . . He was my life partner and I felt empty." The woman had been killed by a drunk driver.

The drunk driver "hit my wife. I heard her scream. . . . My daughter was killed by a drunk driver. . . . My son was just 17 when a drunk driver killed him. All they did was suspend the driver's license for a while."

On the fourth day, four men stranded as I pulled off the route a mile or so from the Illinois-Indiana border and told the waiters about the march. As I was leaving, one of the men stood up and "I'll drink and drive whenever I want to," he shouted. "You'll kill a lot of people that way," I fired back. For the next hour, I walked a lot faster to cool my anger. Changing a lifetime habit doesn't come easy.

When I finally crossed the finish line at Terre Haute, the following day, it was raining hard. My leg of the Walk Across America was nearly finished, and I had already begun to dwell on the issues that needed to be addressed back at my office in New York. In the rain, I recognized a colleague from my firm who lives in Terre Haute. "Tom, we are proud of what you are doing," he commented as I walked by. "You know, our neighbor's daughter was killed by a drunk driver."