OLYMPICS DETERMINE MEN'S RANKINGS;
SOVIET WOMEN DOMINATE

The ORW's annual rankings of the world's walkers (and the top U.S. walkers) is usually a rather exciting task. But in 1988, the men's ranking are determined almost entirely by the finishing order at the Seoul Olympics. Everyone concentrated on those two races and the top men had little other competition against one another. On the women's side, there were no significant International races. As a result, the Soviet women completely dominate the rankings based on their multiple fast races. The U.S. rankings are little less cut and dried.

The ORW launched its World Rankings for men at 20 and 50 Km in 1971 and added U.S. rankings at the same two distances 2 years later. This marks the tenth year we have ranked the women at 10 Km, both world and U.S. We weren't omitting women before that time because of sexism—the ORW has always covered women's results—but simply because there wasn't enough activity to justify rankings.

These rankings are strictly a subjective judgment on the part of your editor as to who were the top 10 walkers in each event for 1988. For each distance, a list of the fastest performers for the year follows the rankings. The fastest ain't necessarily the best. For the rankings, we consider performance in major competitions and records in head-to-head competition against other top performers, as well as times. No awards to the top rankers other than the plaudits of hundreds of ORW readers. So, on to the rankings.

1988 WORLD 20 KM RANKINGS

1. Josef Pribilinac, Czech
   DQ 1:21:34 (1) Cze C 7/17
   1:19:57 (1) Oly Games 9/23
2. Ronald Weigel, GDR
   1:22:05 (1) Potsdam 3/19
   1:22:42 (2) La Coruna 6/19
   1:20:57 (1) Dusseldorf 6/19
   1:20:00 (2) Oly Games 9/23
3. Maurizio Damilano, Italy
   1:22:07 (1) Senigallia 6/26
   1:20:04 (3) Oly Games 9/23
4. Jose Marin, Spain
   1:25:50 (1) Villadecans 1/31
   1:22:42 (2) La Coruna 6/19
   1:25:47 (1) Barcelona 6/8
   1:23:05 (1) Sp. Ch 6/12
   1:20:34 (4) Oly Games 9/23
5. Roman Mrazek, Czech
   1:27:19 (4) Monterey 3/27
   1:24:38 (3) Naumburg 5/1
   1:21:53 (1) Trnava 5/8
   1:25:36 (1) Banska Bys. 5/28
   1:21:41 (2) Czec. Ch 7/17
   1:20:43 (5) Oly Games 9/23

(Continued on page 4)
NOTE: As you see, we continue to experiment with typeface and format. Eventually, we may decide what is right. This is (plima you are reading now, set at 8 point. I'm endeavoring to get type size and margins adjusted so I don't need the xerographic reduction step I have always had to use with typewritten copy. Also note that I continue to get $5.00 subscriptions. The one mistake Casey Meyers made in his book was listing a subscription rate for the ORW--those things change. We have been at $6.00 since last spring. Those who have sent $5.00 will receive a 10-month subscription.

Josef Pribilincc, Czechoslavakia, answers reporters questions after receiving his Olympic gold. In the other shot, Vyacheslav Ivanenko and Hartwig Gauder have it out in the Olympic 50 Km. Silver medalist Ronald Weigel is at far left. The walker in third (I'm not sure who, but I'm sure someone can tell me) is off the ground. Photos by Elliott Denman

PAN AMERICAN CUP--1988

Mar del Plata, Argentina, Nov. 12-13--The third edition of the Pan Am Cup saw three different nations on top in the three races—the Canadians in the women's 10 Km, the U.S. men in the 20 Km, and the Mexican men in the 50.

In the women's 10 Km, Canada's tough veteran internationalist, Ann Peel broke away in the final stages to score a clear and well deserved win in 46:23. Mexico's Maria Colin was a game second, just ahead of Teresa Vaill. But Teresa was disqualified moving Debbie Lawrence to third in a brilliant personal best of 46:44. Canada would have won the team title even without Vaill's DQ as Janice McCaffrey and Alison Baker finished fourth and fifth. Maryano Torrellas had an off day and faded to eighth in 49:02 after being with the leaders at the halfway point.

The 20 Km was an easy win for last year's World Cup winner, Carlos Mercenario. His Mexican teammate, 1984 Olympic Champion Ernesto Canto, challenged him for 15 Km, but gave up the chase rather than risk a third red card. He is close to making a habit of disqualifications and didn't want to continue. Tim Lewis led the U.S. effort with a fourth place finish behind Canada's Guillaume Lablanc. Gary Morgan had a bad day, finishing 13th, but the U.S. got the team victory when Mexico had its third and fourth walkers disqualified.

The 50 was an easy win for Mexico as they swept the first three spots. Herm Nelson and Paul Wick led the U.S. effort in fifth and sixth places. The results:


WORLD RANKINGS (cont.)
6. Mikhail Schennikov, USSR
1:21:37 (5) Sochi 2/21
1:22:57 (3) Moscow 5/2
1:24:57 (10) Varnamo 5/13
1:23:54 (1) Vilnius 5/28
1:20:53 (7) Oly Games 9/23

7. Carlos Mercenario, Mexico
1:25:47 (10) Varnamo 5/13
1:28:53 (7) Oly Games 9/23
1:24:10 (1) Pan Am Cup 11/12
1:21:23 (1) Fana 1:28:32 (1) Pithupadas 7/19

8. Axel Naeck, GDR
1:22:39 (2) Potsdam 3/19
1:20:39 (1) Naumburg 5/1
1:22:27 (2) Varna 5/13

The only change I make from the Olympic order of finish will probably not please our Northern neighbors and faithful subscriber Guillaume Leblanc, who was 10th in the Games while Pershin had two very fast wins, one on the track and one against Spain and was easily beaten by Mercenario and Canto in the PanAm Cup, who was 10th in please our Northern neighbors and faithful subscriber Guillaume Leblanc.

1988 WORLD 20 KM LIST
1:19:08 Mikhail Schennikov, USSR
1:19:16 Igor Misryula, USSR
1:19:23 Aleksey Pershin, USSR
1:19:39 Franz Kostykovich, USSR
1:19:47 Viktor Mostovik, USSR
1:19:55 Josef Pribil, Czech.
1:20:00 Ronald Weigel, GDR
1:20:08 Sergey Protsishin, USSR
1:20:00 Ronald Weigel, GDR
1:20:08 Vitaliy Popov, USSR
1:20:00 Vitaliy Popov, USSR

The Olympic Trials race went a long way toward determining these rankings. Perhaps a little unfair considering the conditions on that day, but it was the race that really counted.

1988 US 20 KM LIST
1:27:30 (1) Columbus 11/1
1:34:12 (1) Oly Trials 7/16
1:35:32 (13) Pan Am Cup 11/12

1988 WORLD 50 KM RANKINGS
1. Yuriy Shchuchin, USSR
3:38:29 (1) Oly Games 9/30

2. Ronald Weigel, GDR
3:42:33 (1) Naumburg 5/1
3:38:56 (1) Oly Games 9/30

6. Paul Schwartzberg
1:26:39 (1) Wash. DC 3/26

DECEMBER 1988

PAGE 4
As in the 20, no one did anything either good or bad enough to justify altering the Olympic finish. As a matter of fact, everyone except Baker had another very good race to support their Olympic performance.

1988 WORLD SO KM LIST

1. Mark Green
2. Carl Schueler
3. Marco Evoniuk
4. Jim Heiring
5. Paul Wick
6. Vera Mokolova
7. Mark Green
8. Dan Pierce
9. Eugene Kiihs
10. Mark Fenton

1988 US 50 KM LIST

1. Mark Green
2. Carl Schueler
3. Marco Evoniuk
4. Jim Heiring
5. Paul Wick
6. Vera Mokolova
7. Mark Green
8. Dan Pierce
9. Eugene Kiihs
10. Mark Fenton

Schueler gets the nod over Evoniuk, beating him two of three times, though Marco came out with the faster time. I'm not sure where Wick had his 4:07 (thanks to Bob Bowman for the men's lists, both US and world, and that's where that time comes from), but Nelson beat him twice and gets the nod for fifth regardless. Green, Pierce, and Kitts could easily go in some other order since they took turns beating each other in the two major races.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Debbie Lawrence</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Maryanne Torrellas</td>
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<td>46:44</td>
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<td>USA</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sarah Standley</td>
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**1988 WOMEN'S 10 KM RANKINGS**

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Lawrence and Torrellas broke even in four races and Torrellas had the faster times, but Debbie was much more consistent and won both the National title and the Olympic Trials Exhibition race, which brought all of the best together... Wendy Sharp started walking in the spring and soon found herself on two international trips—a good debut in the sport.

**1988 US WOMEN'S 20 KM LIST**

<table>
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**RESULTS**

Sectional championships
20 Km Men, Women, Masters, Raleigh, N.C., April 30
20 Km Men, Women, Masters, Mid-Atlantic, Sept. 30
10 and 20 Km, Coconut Creek, Florida, dates to be announced

Qualifiers
50 Km, Antioch, Chicago, March 5—qualifier to IAAF World Cup
Women's 10 Km, Tampa, Florida, April 1—qualifier to IAAF World Cup
20 Km, Washington, D.C., April 16—qualifier to IAAF World Cup

Invitational
20 and 35 Km Men, 10 Km Women, Norman, Oklahoma, July 28-30, US

AMERICAN RECORDS ACCEPTED AT CONVENTION
80-84: Byron Fike/Chesley Unruh and Marilla Salisbury
75-79: Giulio de Petra and Adaline Crocker
60-64: Bob Mimm and Ruth Leff
55-59: Max Green and Ruth Eberle
50-54: Richard Oliver and Sheila Smith
45-49: Larry Price and Jeanne Bocci
Age 40-44: Alan Price and Jeanne Bocci
Outstanding Race Walkers: Bob Mimm and Marie Henry

1988 RACE WALK AWARDS (ZELLER AWARDS)
(As presented at National AAAC Convention in Phoenix)
Outstanding Female: Debbi Lawrence
Outstanding Male at 20 Km: Gary Morgan
Outstanding Male at 30 Km: Carl Schueler
Outstanding Contribution: Martin Rudow
Outstanding Association: New Jersey

Masters Awards
Outstanding Race Walkers: Bob Mimm and Marie Henry
Outstanding Male at 50 Km: Bob Mimm and Marie Henry
Outstanding Male at 20 Km: Bob Mimm and Marie Henry

Outdoors (track)
20 Km: 1:24:50, Tim Lewis, Seattle, May 6, 1988
5 Km Junior: 24:10.14, Deirdre Collier, Sudbury, Ont., July 31, 1988

Outdoors (road)
5 Km: 20:57, Ray Sharp, Overland Park, Kan., May 15, 1988
10 Km: 1:02:46, Paul Schwartzberg, East Meadow, NY, May 30, 1988
15 Km: 1:49:36, Tim Lewis, Seattle, April 13, 1984
20 Km: 2:19:48, Dan O'Connor, East Meadow, Jan. 3, 1988
30 Km: 4:49:59, Dan O'Connor, East Meadow, Jan. 3, 1988
50 Km: 3:57:48, Carl Schueler, Indianapolis, April 24, 1988
5 Km: 22:32, Teresa Vaill, Overland Park, May 15, 1988
10 Km: 47:11, Teresa Vaill, Washington, DC, March 27, 1988
15 Km: 1:12:07, Lynn Weik, East Meadow, NY, Nov. 22, 1987
20 Km: 1:36:28, Lynn Weik, East Meadow, NY, Nov. 22, 1987

FROM HEEL TO TOE

The National 50 Km, scheduled for Atlanta on March 5, promises to be a premier event. With five men to qualify for the U.S. team for the World Cup in Spain, a top flight field is assured. The race committee, working on short notice since the race awarded until the National Convention in early December, has a major sponsor and expects to add a major airline as a sponsor, guaranteeing economical travel for competitors. They have planned a women's 10 Km and a Novice 5 Km the day before, along with clinics for both race walkers and judges. There will also be a prerace dinner on Saturday evening. Contact Dave or Barb Waddle at 404-263-9625 for further information. . . . . Dave, incidentally won the National 100 Km early this month in 1:30:23. Apparently there were only two other finishers, Jill Lamham and Alvia Gaskill. Perhaps we will have a full report by next month. . . . New address for the Kansas City Walkers, as well as Don and Debbie Lawrence, is P. O. Box 35233, Kansas City, MO 64134. Phone 816-763-9255. . . . A question from Elliott Denman: Which three one-time race walkers coached world track and field record holders? See answer bottom of page 14. Elliott assures that this is an "important stuff" question, not a trivia question. . . . Bob Bowman sought an explanation from the Soviets as to why they left proven veterans off their Olympic team (Mostov in the 20 and Sunтов and Perlov in the 50), but got none. . . . Regarding the photo on page 2, shows an Olympic 50 Km walker clearly off the ground: So what? A recent issue of Monterey Peninsula's Walkers' Walk Club newsletter ran a pictur taken from the British Race Walking Record showing Britain's Chris Maddocks off the ground in the Olympic 20. They were aghast. But, we have had many such pictures in the past and reports of comments on such issues. From our viewpoint, and we have said it before when the judging issue gets real hot, the question is not how a photo looks, but how the walker looked to the judges at the time. We've proven time and again that the eye cannot actually detect lack of contact, but must rely on a bunch of subjective factors. Again, the answer to the problem is to simply insert the phrase "as seen by the naked eye" into the rules and photos can do no embarrassing for our sport. It's been suggested many times by many people, but hasn't happened yet, but obviously, that has always been the implication of the rule. . . . For information on the National Indios Master meet, to be held in Columbus, contact James Pearce, 2449 Southway Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43221. . . . There has been commentary in these pages and elsewhere since the Olympics about the state of U.S. walking. With the 1988 lists now complete, I did the following summary which indicates progress, or lack of it, in recent years in the international events. The table shows the number of athletes bettering certain standards by year. Readers can draw whatever conclusions they like, I just present the figures.

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*Under 5:000.
To the Editor:

All the screaming about NBC-TV's non-coverage of the Olympic race walks was predictable long before. The RW world really should have bombarded NBC long before the Games. A lobbying campaign well before Seoul might have helped. But yelling afterward is simply after the fact.

Now that NBC has won the 1992 rights, it should be important to start the '92 lobbying campaign right now. Tell 'em why the walks deserve to be seen. Other events were discriminated against, too. No wonder the fencers made that rumpus at Opening Ceremonies.

Furthermore: Now that cable will pick up some '92 events, let's see if this will help RW's chances of being seen.

Also: The 1989 World Cup of RW from Spain is listed as an event on "The American Plan" for TV coverage next May. Let's really get on to TBS and make sure that first class coverage is really achieved and that the Cup is not somehow left out when it comes time to determine what American audiences get to see. Let's also work on TBS to make sure the walks are included in their coverage of the 1990 Goodwill Games.

We have a lot more ammunition now—what with the sales of walking shoes going out of sight, what with general interest in walking soaring, what with the women's 10 Km now an Olympic event, thus giving walking status as 1/14 or 3/42, or 7.14 percent of all Olympic track and field.

As to Bob Costas's remarks, they were simply one more example of a man's basic ignorance of track and field.

I was out on the road course for both races at Seoul. There was polite enthusiasm for both, and good-sized crowds over the 2500 m loop. If the Korean walkers had been among the leaders, these fans would have gone wild. The loop was set up along the city's most heavily traveled roads, just outside the Olympic Sports Complex. Traffic was tied up something terrific. But Seoul drivers bore with it nobly, in the great Olympic spirit.

Finally, if race walking ever does become a TV sport, let's all make sure it's positively. In other words: judges toughen up, walkers stay legal. We have the potential for some embarrassment.

Sincerely,
Elliott Denman

Answer to the Denman question on page 14: Don DeNoon, who coached Mary Decker in her earliest days; Jean Poquette, who coached Renaldo Nehemiah at Scotch Plains, NJ HS; and Jim Hanley, who coached Steve Lewis at John A. Sutter Junior HS in California. (Ed. Good bit of "important stuff" Elliott, but I must admit, I don't know who Jean Poquette is. Certainly not a prominent race walker. And all of this reminds me, I haven't run my list of best track and field times by race walkers for a long time. Probably some of the new breed would surpass some of the marks by we old timers.)

P.S. I printed this out, and it looks very nice, but I see that I miscalculated on the margins. You have a much narrower page than I intended. My experiments showed it to be right, but unfortunately, they were not actually printing in Optima, which had not yet been downloaded to our printer. Making the adjustment now would take a lot of effort, since a whole lot else would change. So you can live with the narrower copy block this month and next month we will endeavor to get it right. A good way to start the New Year.