Beginning in 1971, your editor has boldly ranked the world's foremost walkers for each year. The first rankings were for men at 20 and 50 Km. (There wasn't enough activity in the women's arena at that time to do any women's rankings.) In 1973, we added U.S. rankings for men at 20 and 50. The women came on board in 1979 as women's racing began to proliferate with rankings at both 5 and 10 km. We abandoned the 5 km rankings in 1985 when the 10 had become the predominate event. This year, the women are ranked at 20 km, which has become the International distance. The rankings are solely the editor's opinion based on the past year's competitions. Following the U.S. rankings are lists of the fastest times for the year. Thanks to Steve Vaitones for help with these. The World lists will follow next month.

1999 World 20 Km Rankings—Women

1. Hong Liu, China
   1:27:32 (1) World Cup 5/2
   1:30:50 (1) World Champ. 8/27

2. Yan Wang, China
   1:29:25 (5) World Cup 5/2
   1:30:52 (2) World Champ. 8/27

3. Susana Feitor, Portugal
   1:34:14 (1) Setubal 2/7
   1:35:06 (1) Rio Maior 3/27
   1:30:13 (9) World Cup 5/2
   1:31:23 (4) World Champ. 8/27

4. Kerry Saxby-Junna, Australia
   1:32:24 (21) World Cup 5/2
   1:31:18 (3) World Champ. 8/27

5. Natalya Fedoskina, Russia
   1:28:59 (1) Adler 2/7
   1:26:35 (2) World Cup 5/2
   DQ World Champ. 8/27

6. Katarzyna Radtke, Poland
   1:31:25 (14) World Cup 5/2
   1:31:34 (5) World Champ. 8/27
   1:34:20 (1) Polish Champ.

7. Yelena Nikolayeva, Russia
   1:29:01 (2) Adler 2/7
   1:28:23 (4) World Cup 5/2
   1:34:10 (12) World Champ. 8/27

8. Norica Cimpean, Romania
   1:27:46 (1) Bekescsaba 3/28
   1:27:48 (3) World Cup 5/2
   DNF World Champ. 8/27

9. Claudia Iovan, Romania
   1:29:39 (6) World Cup 5/2
   1:33:17 (1) Eur U/23 Champ. 8/1
   1:33:46 (11) World Champ. 8/27

10. Jane Saville, Australia
    1:31:58 (18) World Cup 5/2
    1:32:13 (7) World Champ. 8/27
The number one slot is obvious, Liu having won both the major races. Wang and Feitor seem equally clear choices for the next two spots as the only two besides Liu to finish in the top ten in both those races. Wang gets the second spot with her second and fifth, beating Feitor in both those races. Kerry Saxby-Junna, now the grand old lady of the sport, gets the fourth spot with her strong finish ahead of F eitor at the US Championships. ... Radtke, Nikolayeva, Cimpean, and Iovan are very close for the next spots. I give Radtke the nod with her strong World Championship finish.

Dow beat Rolh in the season's first race, but Michelle won their other three meetings, including the USATF Championship race, to nail down the first spot. Armenta was third at the US Championships and the first US finisher at the World Championships, earning her the third spot. Kirk was always a spot ahead of Zenner when they raced and gets fourth ahead of Jill. Ditchburn and Standley are pretty much a toss-up, but we give Margaret the nod with her fast race at the National Invitational. Vaill did not finish the US Championship, but was impressive enough at the National Invitational to get the eighth spot. Eastler-Fishman gets ninth over Rellinger off two impressive late season races after missing the spring and summer season.

### 1999 U.S. Women's 20 Km List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Michelle Rohl</td>
<td>1:39:08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Joanne Dow</td>
<td>1:39:08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Susan Armenta</td>
<td>1:39:08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mary Sazonova, Kazakhstan</td>
<td>1:40:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jill Zenner</td>
<td>1:40:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Margaret Ditchburn</td>
<td>1:40:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sara Standley</td>
<td>1:41:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cheryl Relliguer, M.</td>
<td>1:41:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Donna Chamberlain, Shore AC</td>
<td>1:41:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lynne Brubaker, Shore AC</td>
<td>1:41:22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1999 World Men's 20 Km Rankings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ilya Markov, Russia</td>
<td>1:20:37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Robert Korzenowski, Poland</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yoshiki, China</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Guohui, China</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jeffery Perez, Ecuador</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bernardo Segura, Mexico</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Giovanni, Italy</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Daniel Garcia, Mexico</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Giovanni, Italy</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Robert Korzenowski, Poland</td>
<td>1:20:46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Ohio Racewalker is published monthly in Columbus, Ohio. Subscription rate is $10.00 per year ($12.00 outside the U.S.). Editor and Publisher: John E. (Jack) Mortland. Address all correspondence regarding both editorial and subscription matters to: Ohio Racewalker, 3184 Summit St., Columbus, Ohio 43202. E-mail address: jmortland@columbus.rr.com Approximate deadline for submission of material is the 20th of the month, but it is usually the 25th or later before we go to the printer, so later material will probably get in.

Page 2 December 1999

Page 3
7. Alessandro Gandellini, Italy
1:24:26 (3) Campobasso 3/13
1:24:49 (8) World Cup 5/1
1:22:10 (9) Calella
1:21:01 (1) Catania 5:30
1:24:51 (5) World Champ. 8/21
8. Zewen Li, China
1:24:03 (18) World Cup 5/1
1:26:10 (19) Eisen. 5/8
1:24:43 (4) World Champ. 8/21
9. Vladimir Andreyev, Russia
1:20:00 (3) Adler
1:20:29 (3) World Cup 5/1
1:22:35 (11) L's Hospitalité 5/8
1:19:57 (10) Cheboksary 9/5
10. Igor Kollar, Slovakia
1:21:13 (1) Dubina 4/10
1:25:15 (6) World Champ. 8/21

The picture is much more cloudy here than with the women with nothing clear cut at the top. But Markov’s decisive win at the World Championships, along with a seventh at the World Cup and a very fast race in Turku seem to earn him number one. Segura couldn’t finish in the heat at the World Championships, but his World Cup and Pan Am wins, in which he beat Garcia twice and Perez once, are good enough for the number two slot. Corina’s good performance at the World Cup and decent World Championship race... Korzeniowski had a good World Cup race and beat Markov in the fast Turku race, but chose the 50 at the World Championships and can go no higher than sixth... Gandellini had the most consistent record other than Markov and Garcia at the two big races and earns the seventh spot... Li had two rather poor races to start the season but came through strongly in the World Championships to take eighth... Andreyev’s DQ at the World Championships cost him a lot of ground after an impressive World Cup performance and two other quick races... Kollar’s sixth at the World Championships and Pan Am win over Perez are good enough for the number two slot... Garcia nudges Perez for third with his consistent record in the two big races and his Pan Am win over Perez. Perez chose to walk the 50 at the World Cup, missing a chance at a higher place here... Yu gets fifth off his close second at the World Cup and decent World Championship race... Korzeniowski had a good World Cup race and beat Markov in the fast Turku race, but chose the 50 at the World Championships and can go no higher than sixth... Gandellini had the most consistent record other than Markov and Garcia at the two big races and earns the seventh spot... Li had two rather poor races to start the season but came through strongly in the World Championships to take eighth... Andreyev’s DQ at the World Championships cost him a lot of ground after an impressive World Cup performance and two other quick races... Kollar’s sixth at the World Championships earn him the final spot.

1999 U.S. Men’s 20 Km Rankings

1. Curt Clausen
1:24:49 (3) Nat. Invit. 3/20
1:24:52 (4) La Coruna 5/18
1:23:34 (1) Nat. Champ. 6/27
1:23:39 (6) Pan Am Games 7/26
2. Tim Seaman
1:23:50 (2) Nat. Inv. 3/20
1:27:20 (35) World Cup 5/1
1:24:33 (11) Eisenhuttenstadt 5/8
1:23:42 (2) Nat. Champ. 6/27
1:28:28 (9) Pan Am Games 7/26
1:33:58 (24) World Champ. 8/21
3. Jonathan Matthews
1:25:27 (4) Nat. Inv. 3/20
1:20:38 (63) World Cup 5/1
1:24:50 (3) Nat. Champ. 6/27
4. Andrew Herrman
1:26:50 (4) Nat. Inv. 3/20
1:28:18 (8) La Coruna 5/15
1:25:52 (4) Nat. Champ. 6/27
1:29:34 (5) Pan Am Games 7/26
5. Kevin Eastler
1:27:17 (60) Nat. Invit. 3/20
1:32:41 (71) World Cup 5/1
1:26:41 (5) US Champ. 6/27
1:32:20 (6) World Univ Games 7/11
1:23:42 (2) Nat. Champ. 6/27
1:28:28 (9) Pan Am Games 7/26
1:33:58 (24) World Champ. 8/21
6. Sean Albert
1:27:39 (1) Sacram. 2/14
1:31:30 (10) Nat. Inv. 3/20
1:27:53 Eisen. 5/8
1:34:15 (12) La Coruna 5/15
1:26:54 (6) US Champ. 6/27
7. Mike Rohl
1:24:50 (3) Nat. Champ. 6/27
1:23:42 Tim Seaman, NYAC
1:23:50 Jonathan Matthews, New Balance
1:25:32 Andrew Herrman, adidas
1:26:41 Kevin Eastler, US Air Force
1:26:50 Al Heppner, Potomac Valley TC
1:26:53 Sean Albert, N.J. Striders
1:29:13 Philip Dunn, adidas
1:29:49 Mike Rohl, adidas
1:32:52 Dave McGovern, NYAC
1:33:00 Gary Morgan, NYAC
1:34:46 Warrick Yunker, US Navy
1:36:37 Steve Peconosny, Potomac Val. TC
1:37:43 Mike DeWitt, U.S. Parkside
1:39:27 Will Leggett, U.S. Parkside
1:39:28 John Soucek, Shore AC
1:39:56 Greg Dawson, Park RW
1:40:34 Don DeNoo, un. Illinois
1:41:37 Keith Luoma, Augusta RW

1999 World 50 Km Rankings

1. German Skurygin, Russia
3:40:54 (5) World Cup 5/2
3:44:23 (1) World Champ. 8/25
3:48:18 (3) World Champ. 8/25
3:50:55 (4) World Champ. 8/25
4. Ivano Brugnetti, Italy
3:51:45 (26) World Cup 5/2
3:47:54 (2) World Champ. 8/25
5. Curt Clausen, USA
3:54:38 (1) US Champ. 2/14
3:48:04 (11) World Cup 2/14
3:50:55 (4) World Champ. 8/25
6. Tomasz Lipiec, Poland
3:50:08 (1) Polish Champ.
7. Valentin Massana, Spain
4:06:45 (7) Span. Champ. 3/21
3:45:29 (8) World Cup 5/2
3:51:55 (3) World Champ. 8/25
As in the 20, the finish places at the National Championships basically decide the rankings. Jonathan Matthews had a 4:33:50 in September, but since he did not finish in the Championship race, Pecinovsky still gets the nod for 10th place.

1999 U.S. 50 Km List

3:49:05 Curt Clausen, NYAC 4:38:18 Steve Pecinovsky, Potomac Valley TC
3:58:45 Al Heppner, Potomac Valley TC 4:38:37 Will Leggett, UW Parkside
3:58:57 Andrew Hermann, adidas 4:43:20 John Souciu, Snow Beach AC
4:20:47 Andrzej Chylinski, NYAC 5:01:17 Vince Sheehan, un. New Mexico
4:26:37 Theron Kissing, New Mexico RW 5:08:06 Keith Luoma, Potomac Valley TC
4:3:13 Jonathan Matthews, New Balance

Some results to finish off the year

Racing Opportunities To Begin the Year 2000

Sun. Jan. 9  Indoor 1 Mile, Hanover, N.H., 9 am (N)
Sat. Jan. 8  2.8 Miles Seattle, 9 am (C)
Sun. Jan. 9  Indoor 1 Mile, Hanover, N.H., 9 am (N)
Indoor 3 km, Arlington, Vir. (J)
Indoor 1 Mile, New York City, 11 pm (F)
Sat. Jan. 15  7 km, Miami, 8 am (Q)
Sun. Jan. 16  San Diego Marathon and 1/2 Marathon, 5:30 am
5 km, Denver, 9 am (H)
Sat. Jan. 22  Indoor 5 km (?), Carbondale, Ill. (X)
Sun. Jan. 23  Women's 20 km, Men's 30 km, Open 5 km Chula Vista, Cal. (B)
Indoor 3 km, Arlington, Vir. (J)
5 km, Miami, 7:30 am (Q)
Indoor 3 km, Boston, 9 am (N)
Sat. Jan. 29  NAIA Women's 3 km and Men's 5 km Indoors, Findlay, Ohio (College)(M)
Sun. Jan. 30  San Francisco Half Marathon and 5 km, 8 am (F)
5 km, Denver, 9 am (H)
Rose Bowl 10 Mile Handicap and 5 km, Pasadena, Cal., 7:30 am (B)
Sun. Feb. 6  Las Vegas 1/2 Marathon, 6:45 am (P)
Indoor 3 km, Arlington, Vir. (J)
Sat. Feb. 12  2.8 Miles Seattle, 9 am (C)
Sun. Feb. 13  USATF National 50 km and Olympic Trial, Sacramento, Cal.
5 km, Denver, 9 am (C)
Indoor 1 Mile, Somerville, Mass., 1 pm (N)
3 km Mall Walk, Bridgeport, Conn., 9:30 (Z)
Fri. Feb. 18  New England Indoor 3 km Championship, Boston, 6 pm (N)
Sat. Feb. 19  5 and 10 km, Washington, D.C. (J)
Sat. Feb. 26  Florida State 20 km, Cooper City (Q)
Sun. Feb. 27  20 km, Vancouver Island, Victoria, B.C. (C) or jacque@limcorp.com
Sun. March 5  International 20 km, Vancouver, B.C. (C) or gdrag@directcom
5 km, Miami, 7:45 am (Q)
Sat. March 11  2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C)

2000 National Championships

Following is information we have at this time on the schedule for USATF National Racewalks in 2000. The Men's 50 km is in conjunction with the Olympic Trials in Sacramento on Feb. 13, as shown above. Both the men's and women's 20 km will also be a part of the Trials in Sacramento in July. We don't have an exact schedule for that meet as yet. The other races are:

April 16, Flushing, Mich. Senior and Masters Men's 30 km, Masters Women's 20 km. Contact Urban Walkers, c/o Mark O'Donnell, 5214 Ole Saybrook, Grand Blanc, MI 48439, Ph. 810-238-3349, FAX 810-238-3356

May 21, Elk Grove, Illinois Senior Men's and Women's 15 km, Junior Men's 15 km, Masters Men's and Women's 15 km. Contact: Diane Graham-Henry, 442 W. Belden, Chicago, IL 60614, Ph. 312-953-2052, FAX 312-953-2053, e-mail: arcaswiss@aol.com.

August 12, Wilkes Barre, Penn., Senior Men's and Women's 10 km. Contact Jim Wolfe, 220 Lasley Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706, Ph. 570-821-6504, FAX 570-821-6558, e-mail: jim.wolfe@atm.com.

September 12, Fort Monmouth, N.J., Senior and Masters Men's 40 km, Masters Women's 40 km. Contact Shore Athletic Club, Elliot Denman, 28 North Locust Avenue, West Long Branch, N.J., Ph. 732-222-9080, 732-494-7644

October 1, Worcester, Mass., Senior Men's 2 Hour, Senior Women's, Junior Men's and Women's, Master Men's and Women's 1 Hour. Contact New England Walkers, c/o Justin Kuo, 39 Oakland Road, Brookline, MA 02445, Ph. 617-731-9889, FAX 617-731-9062, e-mail: jkuo@usatfn.org.
From Heel to Toe

Millenium mania and a churlish editor. A few issues back I made some comment on celebration of the new millenium coming a year early. Actually, some will say it comes a few years too late, accepting that our calendar supposedly begins the A.D. years with the birth of Christ. That event was c. 3 B.C. That's another story. With the calendar we now have in place and seem to accept, a new millenium doesn't start until the old one ends, in this case, at the end of the year 2000. Of course, all of those zeros are irrestible so we will celebrate a year ahead. Actually, I really much accepted that inevitable outcome a couple of years ago. Suggesting otherwise is futile, and my wife brands me as a bit of a boor when I do so. (However, I found at Thanksgiving dinner that I have sold support of a brother-in-law.) Now I find that I am more than just a boor and should accept the inevitable more quietly. The December Smithsonian magazine carries an article entitled "Taking the Measure of Time". Jonathan Betts, the curator of horology at the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England, the epicenter of world time, comments on millenial activities there. He duly notes that the beginning of the year 2000 is not the real millennium, but merely the beginning of the countdown to it. "Say I owe you twenty dollars and pay you back a dollar at a time. You don't consider the debt settled until I've given you the last penny of the 20th dollar. By the same token, we won't have finished the millennium until we've finished the 2000th year--and that doesn't happen until December 31, 2000." But the Royal Observatory has no intention of raining on the millennium parade. "When the zeros come," said Betts, "we're going to be celebrating ahead of schedule along with everyone else. It would be rather churlish not to." Oh, that your churlish editor, a bit of a boor, could be so accepting... Olympics timetable. The schedule for the racewalks for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney is: Friday, September 22, 12:50 pm-Men's 20 Km, Thursday September 28, 10:45 am-Women's 20 Km, Friday September 29, 8 am-Men's 50 Km... Masters meets. The National Masters T&F Championships, including racewalks, are set for Boston, March 24-25 (Indoors) and Eugene, Oregon, August 10-13 (Outdoors). Boston will also be the indoor site in 2001, 2002, and 2003. The outdoor meet will be in Baton Rouge, La. in 2001 and Orono, Maine in 2002... 50 Km Trials. The address for information on the 50 Km Olympic Trials in Sacramento on Feb. 13 is 2000 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Track and Field, Sacramento Olympic Trials Office, P.O. Box 511, Sacramento, CA 95812, Phone 1-877-873-9690... Palle Lassen remembered. Denmark's Palle Lassen was a long-time IAAF racewalk chairman and also for many published a newsletter and a series of booklets of racewalk statistics. That effort was carried on by Egon Rasmussen until his death several years ago. Those materials provided a great source for the Ohio Racewalker for many years. Thus, we were saddened to receive the following press release from IAAF headquarters in Monte Carlo: "It is with great sadness that the IAAF has learnt of the death of Palle Lassen. He died on December 2 from complications following major heart surgery. In his days of sport he had also passed away. He would have been 80 years old on December 7. Mr. Lassen, one of Denmark's greatest athletics afficionados, was a renowned statistician (he was Treasurer of the Association of Track & Field Statisticians), but above all was dedicated to the specialty of racewalking. He was first elected to the IAAF Walking Committee in 1968, and became its Chairman in 1972. His competence and dedication in this post ensured that he was greatly respected throughout the world. So important was his contribution to the development of international racewalking that he was made an Honorary Life Member of the IAAF Racewalking Committee in 1991. In 1991, the IAAF also awarded Mr. Lassen the IAAF Veteran Pin in recognition of his long service to the cause of world athletics... Arco Races. This release from Al...
Recalling A World-Class Racewalker

by Mary Baker

He surfaced at 4 o'clock every morning, arms pumping, heels striking, hips swiveling in the Naples darkness. The street urchins gawked and taunted. "The Crazy Man" was out walking again, walking as if already, he were running behind. So furious. So fast. So funny looking.

But Giulio de Petra—the inspiration for Saturday's 19th annual Giulio de Petra Megawalk at CSU Monterey Bay—was just practicing. Literally putting one foot in front of the other with hopes of becoming the world's greatest racewalker. He gave no pause to the urchin's snickers. de Petra once mocked a man, too, who was walking this same sort of brisk walk.

As the story goes, it was 1924 when a forlorn 14-year-old de Petra was sitting in the infield of a school track. de Petra was having a dismal time competing. He couldn't run as fast. Couldn't jump as high. Suddenly, he noticed a man walking toward him. It was an awkward gait, as if the feet were trying mightily to keep up with the body.

de Petra decided to settle in behind the racewalker, mimicking his style. Annoyed, the man quickened his pace. Surely, he could leave this ill-mannered boy behind. But de Petra never disappeared. Finally, the man gave up. leaving the track in frustration. Three months later, de Petra was having a dismal time competing. He couldn't run as fast. Couldn't jump as high. Suddenly, he noticed a man walking toward him. It was an awkward gait, as if the feet were trying mightily to keep up with the body.

depetra decided to settle in behind the racewalker, mimicking his style. Annoyed, the man quickened his pace. Surely, he could leave this ill-mannered boy behind. But de Petra never disappeared. Finally, the man gave up. leaving the track in frustration. Three months later, de Petra was having a dismal time competing. He couldn't run as fast. Couldn't jump as high. Suddenly, he noticed a man walking toward him. It was an awkward gait, as if the feet were trying mightily to keep up with the body.

"My mother, Hella, used to train with him," said Hansi Rigney, de Petra's daughter. "And she had to ride her bicycle to stay with him." Bella's husband was finishing class at Monterey Peninsula College. Then he organized the Walk, Walk, Walk Club.

"Then came the war," Rigney said. "Then it was too late." de Petra decided to settle in behind the racewalker, mimicking his style. Annoyed, the man quickened his pace. Surely, he could leave this ill-mannered boy behind. But de Petra never disappeared. Finally, the man gave up. leaving the track in frustration. Three months later, de Petra was having a dismal time competing. He couldn't run as fast. Couldn't jump as high. Suddenly, he noticed a man walking toward him. It was an awkward gait, as if the feet were trying mightily to keep up with the body.

In 1928, precisely when he was peaking, Olympic officials cancelled the racewalking event after they couldn't agree on an appropriate race length. The competition was reinstated in 1932, but the distance had gone from 10 km to 50. de Petra was best at about 25. He decided to skip the gathering in Los Angeles.

Surely, thought de Petra, he would be there for the Berlin Games four years later. But in 1935, he was drafted into the Italian army and sent to Ethiopia, where he remained until 1937.

"Then came the war," Rigney said. "Then it was too late." de Petra decided to settle in behind the racewalker, mimicking his style. Annoyed, the man quickened his pace. Surely, he could leave this ill-mannered boy behind. But de Petra never disappeared. Finally, the man gave up. leaving the track in frustration. Three months later, de Petra was having a dismal time competing. He couldn't run as fast. Couldn't jump as high. Suddenly, he noticed a man walking toward him. It was an awkward gait, as if the feet were trying mightily to keep up with the body.

In 1937, de Petra was fighting in the Italian army and sent to Ethiopia, where he remained until 1937.

"Then came the war," Rigney said. "Then it was too late." de Petra decided to settle in behind the racewalker, mimicking his style. Annoyed, the man quickened his pace. Surely, he could leave this ill-mannered boy behind. But de Petra never disappeared. Finally, the man gave up. leaving the track in frustration. Three months later, de Petra was having a dismal time competing. He couldn't run as fast. Couldn't jump as high. Suddenly, he noticed a man walking toward him. It was an awkward gait, as if the feet were trying mightily to keep up with the body.

1940 book on racewalking by Hugh Innes.
1:52:27 as Jim Heiring claimed the national title in second (1:57:28). Marco Evoniuk, Ray Sharp, Dennis Reilly, and Tom Dooley followed. Jobin also won the National 35 Km in Houston, his 2:37:16 leaving John Knifton better than 18 minutes back. Dooley and Bill Ranney were next. Chris Hansen stormed through 10 Km in 43:06 in Seattle with Steve DiBernardo second in 44:29.

In Kiev, Soviet Nikolai Udoenko bettered the listed World Record for 30 Km recording 2:08:16 on the track, but was short of Jose Marin's (Spain) 2:08:00 earlier in the year.

15 Years Ago (From the December 1984 ORW)-Leading the World Rankings for the year were Mexico's Ernesto Canto (20), the GDR's Ronald Weigel (50), and Olga Kristop, USSR (10). Top ranked in the U.S. were Marco Evoniuk (20), Carl Schueler (SO), and Ester Lopez (10). This issue included a report by Dr. Howard Palamarchuk on TAC's first Racewalk Sports Medicine Science Seminar.

10 Years Ago (From the December 1989 ORW)-Kery Saxby, Australia; Ileana Salvador, Italy; and Beate Anders, GDR were 1-2-3 in the ORW World 10 Km rankings. Lynn Weik, Teresa Vaill, and Debbi Lawrence topped the U.S. rankings. In the World 20 Km rankings, it was Fratts Kostyukovitch, Yevgeniy Mislyula, and Mikhail Schennikov, all USSR. In the U.S., Tim Lewis, Gary Morgan, and Mark Manning were on top. At 50 Km, we ranked Simon Baker, Australia; Andrei Perlov, USSR; and Stanislav, Vezhol, USSR as the top three in the world, and Paul Wick, Herm Nelson, and Tim Lewis as the top three in the U.S. Mexico's Carlos Mercenario blistered the New York City Marathon in 3:11:56, beating the UK's Chris Maddocks by nearly 2 minutes and Sweden's Bo Gustafsson by 6 1/2. Perlov was fourth in a star-studded field.

5 Years Ago (From the Dec. 1994 ORW)-Gustafsson topped the New York City Marathon field this time in 3:33:28, 31 seconds ahead of Allen James. Dave Marchese was third. Sari Essayah, Finland; Anna Rita Sidoti, Italy, and Yelena Nikolayeva, Russia were ranked 1-2-3 in the World 10 Km, with Michelle Kohli, Teresa Vaill, and Debby Van Orden atop the U.S. rankings. At 20 Km, Mikhail Schennikov, Russia; Bernardo Segura, Mexico, and Yevgeniy Mislyula, Belarus were the world leaders and Allen James, Jonathan Matthews, and Andrelj Chylinski led the U.S. The 50 Km World rankings saw Valery Spitzy, Russia; Thierry Toutain, France; and Giovanni Ferricelli, Italy on top, while Allen James, Jonathan Matthews, and Herm Lindgren led the U.S.

Really Looking Back

Reference in the de Petra article above to the phrase "Walk, Don't Run" reminded me of the 1966 movie by that name starring Cary Grant and Jim Hutton. At the time, some were looking at the movie as a possible promotional vehicle for the sport. For those of you who have never seen, or even heard of, this classic, here is my review from the September 1966 ORW (Vol. II, Number 7). I don't know if you can find this film on video or not.

Dropped down to one of the local cinemas a couple of weeks ago to take in the celebrated "Walk, Don't Run" and found it rather enjoyable. I can't knock the picture very much now because my revered Playboy has just come out with a favorable review. However, in light of some of the criticism we have received, I fail to see how Messrs. Silcock and MacLachlan can condone this film. It is a romantic comedy, filled with innuendo, double entendre, and just plain, blatant, outright references to (if you will pardon the expression) sex.

The plot really has nothing whatsoever to with racewalking, which is purely incidental. As a matter of fact, throughout the movie our hero manages to avoid revealing in what sport he competes as he is obviously ashamed and self-conscious about competing in racewalking. I don't think apologists really serve to boost the image of the sport. He does at one time come close to an admission when he allows to being pretty fast in college but having slowed down considerably now that he has found one thing in which he can compete. But, to his immediate relief, the subject is suddenly changed before he has to make the cruel admission.

Near the end of the movie, his secret is finally out as the Olympic 50 km gets under way. There was no one in the field that looked like a particularly good example of a racewalker. In my opinion, Cary Grant, who hops in elad in his under shorts, is the best looking walker of the bunch. One contestant who drops out at some stage of the race turns out to be a reporter who wanted to get a first hand story. Surprisingly enough, he was still right with the pack, which would seem to indicate it is no feat to stay with some slow-moving, Olympic-type 50 km walkers. I really can't see where the movie did anything for the sport, other than bringing it the attention of the public in the same vein it is usually brought to their attention.

But, as stated, walking was in no way essential to the plot, and it was a mildly entertaining movie in other aspects. Having been in Tokyo, I particularly enjoyed their portrayal of the Japanese people. Although it was, of course, overdone, it was quite typical of how these people act and react in their gracious and humble way. There were many obvious inaccuracies in regard to the Olympics, records, etc., but obvious only to the few educated and interested in these matters. Overall, an enjoyable evening.

Another little note of passing interest in that issue concerned the outstanding distance runner Gerry Lindgren, who had competed in the Tokyo Olympics (1964) 10 Km a few months after finishing high school. (Jim Ryun competed in the 1500 at the same Games with his final year of high school still ahead of him.) Anyway, here is the item:

In another race in the Northwest on August 4, Jim Bean won a mile in 7:12.2 with Gerry Lindgren a close second. No official time on Geny, but it was said to be about 7:15. Gerry used to like to imitate us walkers and he has good natural style. He obviously has the strength for the distances and could probably clean us all if he wanted to turn to walking. But why should he when he can clean them all in running and get a lot more out of it. (Gerry also finished second in a Junior National 15 Km, perhaps this same year, in about 1:20, as I recall. I could search it out, but I won't bother. Maybe Jim Bean will fill me in.)