U.S. Juniors Shine in Pan-Am Cup Races

Lima, Peru, May 7-8--The Pan-American Racewalking Cup highlighted an upsurge of the sport on this continent with outstanding performances at all distances, and the emergence of many new faces, many of those from countries not previously known for racewalking talent. For the U.S., the biggest story was the performances of juniors Zac Pollinger and Maria Michta. Both responded well to the strong competition with races that underlined the talent they displayed a month earlier in the U.S. Trials.

Michta finished second to Canada's Rachel Lavallee and in the process knocked 12 seconds off her own American record of 48:15, set in those Trials. She went with the lead pack from the start and then picked off a couple of walkers in the final lap to capture the silver medal. She worked hard to catch and then hold off El Salvador's Veronica Colindres, one of the continent's many emerging racewalkers, who finished in 48:06. With Katy Hayes finishing 17th in 53:09 and Lauren Forgues 22nd in 57:43, the U.S. team captured fourth place in this race. Forgues was fighting stomach problems explaining her subpar race.

In the Junior men's race, Pollinger was just 4 seconds off his Trials time as he finished eighth in 44:18. The race was won by Peru's Alex Tapia in 42:11, following disqualifications of a Mexican and a Columbian walker in the final stages. The U.S. team finished fourth with both Jared Swehosky (46:45) and Christopher Diaz (47:33) turning in solid performances after staying near the lead pack in the early stages.

In the men's 20 Km, Ecuador's Rolando Saquipay stamped himself as a worthy successor to the great Jefferson Perez (who did not compete here) as he left the field well back with a 1:19:21 performance. He was closely pursued for much of the race by Columbia's Luis Lopez, another of the new faces, but pulled well clear in the final 3 km to win by more than a minute. Sergio Galdino of Brazil was third, another minute back.

The 25-year-old Saquipay, who comes from the same hometown as Perez, had a previous best of 1:20:47, which he did when finishing 12th in last year's World Cup. He was 7th in the Athens Olympics.

For the U.S., Tim Seaman finished tenth in 1:27:18, but felt out of energy a few laps into the race. By that night, he had a burning throat, exploding head, running nose, and fever so he can be excused for being a few minutes off expectations. John Nunn was 17th in 1:29:44 and Theron Kissinger finished in 1:35:45 as the U.S. team placed fifth.

Cristiana Lopez of El Salvador was surprise winner in the Women's 20 with a brilliant 1:30:35 a minute ahead of Ecuador's Miriam Ramon. Lopez took over at 5 Km and moved steadily away the rest of the race. Following the lead of Jefferson Perez, Ecuador is building a stable of strong walkers, both male and female, and in the junior ranks. Mexico's great veteran Graciela Mendoza was a strong third. For the U.S., Amber Antonia finished eighth in 1:38:42, a 5 second improvement on her Trials effort and her fastest time since...
2002. This despite some stomach problems in the second half of the race. Finishing tenth, Bobbi Jo Chapman was just a few seconds off her personal best with 1:39:47. Unfortunately, both Deb Huberty and Sarah Standley-Gonzalez started picking up red cards early and were out by mid-race, so the U.S. did not finish a team.

In the 50, the Mexicans, who have so dominated Pan-Am Cup races through the years, finally asserted themselves in this competition. A late bloomer, 34-year-old Miguel Solis, who had set a personal record of 4:02:05 in the Tijuana Challenge race in March, led a Mexican sweep of the first four places with a 3:54:24 effort. Equally unknown Horacio Nava was second in 3:59:26. For the U.S., Philip Dunn was eighth in 4:18:32. Ray Sharp, age 45, continued his comeback after a 13-year layoff with a 2 minute improvement on his Trials time as he finished twelfth in 4:33:25. As in the Trials, he covered the first half in about 2:10 and then suffered. Ed Parrott, still learning about racingwalking in general, let alone the 50, had a great race improving on his Trials performance by about 12 minutes with a 4:45:03 in thirteenth. He came from a lap behind local favorite Ivan Yarango in the final 15 km and won a stirring sprint to the finish, pulling ahead only in the final 30 meters. The U.S. team finished second to Mexico. Dave McGovern walked well through 25 km (2:18:51), but struggled from there and finally had to call it a day after 40 km.


**Sesto San Giovanni Races to Fernandez and Turava**

Milan, Italy, May 1–The fourth leg of the 2005 IAAF Racewalking Challenge, the Coppa Citta di Sesto San Giovanni contested near here, saw a repeat of the second leg with Spain’s Francisco and Balarus’ Margaryta Turava on top in the 20 km races, just as they were a month ago in Rio Maior, Portugal.

Olympic silver medalist Fernandez, unfazed by a temperature in the 80s, easily bested Russia’s Ilya Markov, who was second in the 2001 World Championships, but has struggled to regain that form since. Fernandez, now coached by four-time Olympic gold medalist, Robert Korzeniowski, finished in 1:19:54 with Markov 38 seconds back.

Australia’s Luke Adams was a distant third, just ahead of 2004 Olympic gold medalist, Ivan Brugnetti, still trying to come back from a pelvic injury.

Turava was also unchallenged at the finish as she clocked 1:28:43, 50 seconds ahead of Portugal’s veteran, Susanna Feitor, who improved markedly from her thirteenth place finish in Rio Maior.

For the first 5 km of the men’s race, Fernandez was content to walk with Markov, Adams, Aigars Fadejevs, and Hatem Ghoula as they clocked a 20:08. Brugnetti, perhaps testing just what he was going to be able to do on the day, was about a minute back. By 8 km, Fernandez had enough of the “leisurely” pace and accelerated sharply to reach 10 km in 39:49, a 1:41 split. That left Markov 11 seconds back and the others dropping quickly away. A third in 19:51 brought the Spaniard to 15 km in 59:40 and an insurmountable lead that allowed him to coast through a final 5 km in 20:14. After the race, he noted, “The very warm temperature made the race very tough. Sesto is a very difficult race because there are warm good athletes.”

**Brugnetti, after passing 10 km in just 42:28, indicated his comeback from injury is going well as he covered the second half in 40:31, nearly catching Adams.**

In the women’s race, Turava and Romania’s Claudia Stefan led at 5 km in 22:30, with Feitor, Elisa Rigaudo, and Valentina Tsbulskaya close behind. Stef stayed with her through 10 km (44:51), with Feitor and Rigaudo six seconds back. Stepping up the pace on the next 5, Turava reached 15 in 1:06:44 with a healthy lead, which she continued to increase to the finish. “I felt very good today, and I realized that I could win after 5 km. I didn’t really expect to be in such good form so early in the year.”

Russians Dominate European Cup of Racewalking

Miskolc, Hungary, May 21—In the sixth edition of the European Cup of Racewalking held today, the Russian team was completely dominant, winning individual titles in all five races and team titles in four of the five. They missed the team title in the women's 20 Km when two of their four walkers were disqualified. But, even in that race, they showed their dominance with first and fifth place finishes.

Individually, Aleksy Voyevodin won the 50, Ilya Markov the men's 20, Olimpia Ivanova the women's 20, Andrey Ruzavin the junior men's 16, and Vera Sokolava the junior women's 10.

Voyevodin, Olimpia bronze medalist last year, and a two-time World Cup winner, won in 3:41:03, but had all he could handle in his teammate Sergey Kirdapkbin, who was just 8 seconds back at the finish. Yuriy Adronov completed a Russian sweep in third. And beyond that, the pace was forged by 20-year-old Vladimir Kanaykin for the first 30 Km. He eventually paid the price.

The young Russian went through the first 10 in 44:22, 10 seconds ahead of Voyevodin and Kirdapkpin, with the rest of the field already dropping away. Not content with that, he stepped it up to reach 20 in 1:28, 48 seconds clear of his two countrymen. Slowing only slightly, he reached 30 in 2:12:05, but had lost 8 seconds of his lead as the other two started their own surge in pursuit. It took just another 15 Km to overhaul the overstretched youngster and he called it a day. Voyevodin said, "It was his first 50 Km race and he showed his ability—I think he is the future of our sport."

Still together, the two leaders reached 40 Km in 2:56:34 and held a 44 minute pace. Adronov, meanwhile, nearly 2 minutes back, was overextended youngster and he called it a day. Voyevodin said, "It was his first 50 Km race and he showed his ability—I think he is the future of our sport."

Other results:

**MEN'S 20 KM**
- Andrey Ruzavin, Russia 1:19:54
- Ilya Markov, Russia 1:20:32
- Ivan Brugnetti, Italy 1:22:59
- Benjamin Kucinski, Poland 1:23:26
- Alex Schwazer, Italy 1:25:10
- Ivan Trotski, Belarus 1:25:27
- Hatem Ghoula, Tunisia 1:26:30
- Gian Luca Trombetti, Italy 1:27:11
- Mikel Ondrozolo, Spain 1:27:29

**WOMEN'S 20 KM**
- Vera Sokolava, Russia 1:25:04
- Ilya Markov, Russia 1:25:25
- Anna Ivanova, Belarus 1:25:30
- Ukrainian 1:25:34
- Belarussian 1:25:36

**JUNIOR MEN'S 10 KM**
- Andrey Ruzavin, Russia 1:06:47
- Marko Prokhorov, Russia 1:07:19
- Carsten Schmidt, Germany 1:07:35
- Natalya Miluytina, Russia 1:08:16
- Yulia Voyevodina, Russia 1:08:35

**JUNIOR WOMEN'S 10 KM**
- Vera Sokolava, Russia 1:19:54
- Tatyana Kalmykova, Russia 1:20:32
- Luke Adams, Portugal 1:21:00
- Alex Schwazer, Italy 1:21:16
- Carsten Schmidt, Germany 1:21:16

**JUNIOR MEN'S 20 KM**
- Andrey Ruzavin, Russia 1:20:32
- Marko Prokhorov, Russia 1:20:50
- Carsten Schmidt, Germany 1:21:16
- Natalya Miluytina, Russia 1:21:39
- Yulia Voyevodina, Russia 1:21:57

The results show how dominant Sokolava is, with only seven others able to break 50 minutes.

The importance of racewalking cannot be overstated. It is a sport that requires both physical and mental strength, and the results shown here prove that the Russian team is truly the class of the field.
### Results

|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|

**Total Finishers:** 1600

**DQ:** 7

**DNF:** 10

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### Teams

1. Russia 6
2. France 1
3. Italy 3
4. Belarus 4
5. Hungary 4:07:39
6. Daugvinas Zujus, Lithuania 4:08:16
7. Yuriy Bruban, Ukraine 4:11:16
8. Augusto Cardoso, Portugal 4:05:58
9. Modris Liepins, Latvia 4:06:26
10. Zołtan Czukor, Antti Kempas, Finland 3:59:01

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**Overall Team Score:**

- **Ukraine:** 233
- **France:** 309

*Note: Only two nations that finished full teams in all four races.* Russia had just 22 total points in the four races they won.
Bill Whipp (60) 1:44:00 1. David McDonald (61) 1:46:07 1. Pat Darling 1:50:43

Women - I. Grace Mutz (45) 63:00 2. Lois Dicker (65) 69:55 3. Fran Emmler


Columbus in 1998. He finished third behind Gary Morgan and Steve Pecinovsky in that race (25:35, 52:06, 1:19:19). Back from Peru and on hand was S-Km, Kentfield, Calif., April 13-1.


Hi Ho, Hi Ho, A Racing We Will Go

Fri. June 3 1 Mile, Houston (L)
Sat. June 4 National USATF 10 Km and Junior 3 Km, Niagara Falls®
3 Km, Seattle (C)
5 Km, Denver, 8 am (H)
Half Marathon and 5 Km, Fontana, Cal., 7 am (Y)
Fri. June 10 1 Mile, Houston (L)
Sat. June 11 1 Mile, Colts Neck, N.J. (A)
10 Km, Denver, 8 am (H)
Long Island 5 Km, Farmingdale, N.Y. (DD)
2.8 Miles, Seattle, 9 am (C)
Sun. June 12 Ohio 10 Km, Yellow Springs (M)
3 Km, Arlington, Vir. (S)
5 Km, Los Angeles, 6:30 am (Y)
10 and 20 Km, Kenosha, Wis., 6 pm (F)
Mon. June 13 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:30 pm (A)
Fri. June 17 1 Mile, Houston, (L)
Sat. June 18 Metropolitan 10 Km, New York City, 9 am (G)
5 Km, Eugene, Ore. (C)
South Region 5 Km, Arlington, Texas, 3 pm (L)
Sun. June 19 Long Island 10 Km, Farmingdale (DD)
1 Mile, Eugene, Ore. (C)
Goulding Memorial 10 Km, London, Ontario (O)
10 and 20 Km, Denver, 8 am (H)
Mon. June 20 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:30 pm (A)
Wed. June 22 5 Km, Denver, 6:30 pm (H)
Fri. June 24 1 Mile, Houston (L)
Sat. June 25 5 Km, Gresham, Ore. (C)
USATF National Junior 10 Km and Senior 20 Km, Carson, Calif. (AA)
5 Km, Denver, 9:30 am (H)
1 Mile, Gresham, Ore. (C)
1 Hour, Kentfield, Cal., 8 am (P)
5 Km, Denver, 8 am (H)
3 Km, Arlington, Vir. (S)
5 and 10 Km, Los Angeles, 8:30 am (Y)
Mon., June 27 5 Km, Long Branch, N.J., 6:30 pm (A)
Wed. June 29 1 Mile, Oakhurst, N.J., 6:15 pm (A)
Sat. July 2 5 Km, Pomona, N.J. (A)

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FROM HEEL TO TOE

Here's a challenge. In 1969, a few racewalkers in Philadelphia decided to challenge one another in a ten-event contest. It's been going on ever since. It was for racewalkers only the first few years. Now it's open to all. It is held the last Saturday of June each June. June 25 this year. It's the Alex Proven Memorial Decathlon. The events: 1600 meter racewalk, shot put, 1600 meter run, standing long jump; 100 meter dash; 400 meter walk, standing triple jump, 400 meter run, pull-ups, and cross country run. Scoring is based on 2 for first, 2 for second, etc. It is at a prep school in Bensalem, Pa. Interested? Information from Dave Proven Jr. Who has been keeping the event going all these years. 522 Amherst Circle, Perkasie, PA 18944. 215-453-8512. **Do you like lists?** A fellow by the name of Raymond Smith recently found a copy of the 1981, first edition of the Book of Sports Lists #3 in a Melbourne, Australia second-hand book shop. It contained the following article: "Elliott Deman's 12 Greatest American Walkers." In 1956, Elliott Deman walked from the Bronx to Australia by way of New York University's Field, the U.S. Olympic trials in Baltimore, and an Air Force jet. Down under, he came up with an eleven place finish in the 50 km racewalk at the Melbourne Olympics and has been a walking activist ever since. He indulges in the pastime for competitive and recreational reasons, but, as a sportswriter for the Ashbury Park Press for 17 years (Ed. Since retired), he has never taken a pedestrian approach to athletic journalism. 1. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark (one and inseparable) 2. Larry Young 3. Henry Laskau 4. Harry S. Truman 5. Ronald Zimd 6. Edwin Payson Weston 7. Abraham Lincoln Monteverde 8. Ronald O. Laird 9. Todd Scully 10. Rudy Haluza 11. Marco Evonik 12, Cal Schuler". Mr. Smith, via the internet, then asks: Hello Elliott if you are looking in, my best regards. Have you on your computer pen portraits of the listed athletes? Have you a current list for today?" Yes, Elliott, have you a current list. **Paul Smith.** Paul Smith, very active in Pacific Association racewalking affairs for many years, a driving force of the Sierra Racewalkers, and more recently the writer of press releases for Racewalking International, died on May 11, following a bout with cancer that began last September. These words from Tom Eastler, the other coast (in Maine). "Paul would have wanted me to call him a renegade since he clearly was one. A mile-mannered racewalker who walked softly but carried a very powerful pen, Paul prided himself on 'stirring the pot' when he felt that the racewalking pot needed to be stirred, which was most of the time. One couldn't be ambivalent about Paul, one either liked him a lot, or not. I liked him a lot, as did many of my high school walkers. A side of Paul that many never saw was his generosity, sensitivity, and kindness. He was a devotee of racewalking and wanted more no less than that racewalking in the U.S. rise to the top internationally, and he saw his mission as one of advocacy for action... Paul opened his home to racewalkers from away, including some of my past high school walkers who needed a place to stay in California. He was a man who was passionate about his love of racewalking, and I and many others will miss him dearly. **More on S.H.I.T.** Our article in last month's issue, stolen from Bob Carlson, elicited the following from Roger Burrows in Ottawa: "With great regret at being a, um, pooper of the party, I have to flush the delightful S.H.I.T. story in the April ORW into the port-a-potty of 'folk mythology'. That is, a derivation that sounds plausible and has become popularly accepted, though the linguistic truth lies elsewhere. I hadn't heard this one before, but it falls into the same category as several others. "Posh", for example, is often claimed to have been a notation on the tickets of rich passengers making the round trip from England to India. It was an alleged acronym for 'port out, starboard home', i.e., the expensive cabins on the shady side of the ship. "or the rule of thumb" as a supposed reference to the permissible girth of a stick with which a husband could beat his wife without incurring the wrath of the law. Both colorful stories, but not true. Shit (there, the first use in ORW history? Ed. Yes, and one might hope the last) came into English many, many moons ago along a standard Germanic pathway. It originally had no objectionable connotation, and was simply the name for a common substance. I suspect that it was William the Conqueror's influence that changed the register. After his invasion of England in 1066, many words of Germanic origin became relegated to the English-speaking 'common folks'. Albeit a linguistic minority, England's ruling classes and sophisticates spoke Norman French for a good three centuries. Sorry, boys, what a wet blanket I am. But, what can you expect from a reader who works as a lexicographer, a compiler of dictionaries, defined in Dr. Johnson's first great dictionary of English as a harmless drudge'? By way of apology, can I offer a manure story that really is related to racewalking, and remains one of my favorite fund-raising projects? For some years, the powerful track team at Burnaby Central H.S. in Vancouver (which contained a flourishing group of young racewalkers) used to bring in a truckload of manure from a farm in the lush agricultural area to the east. Dumped into the school parking lot and shoveled into plastic bags, it was in great demand from the avid gardeners of the beautiful city. The 'manure' weekend became a highly-anticipated event; I am told that the team even expanded to cater to the specialized needs of the cognescenti (common cow, potent pig, bureaucratic bull, exotic who knows what) Ed. Ewe, perhaps, or, wow, how about elephant?’. Even after paying for the municipality to hose down the parking lot in time for Monday classes, the proceeds apparently financed the team's activities for much of the year.

LOOKING BACK

40 Years Ago (From the May 1965 ORW) - In only its third month, the Ohio Racewalker was still a bit provincial and this issue featured a lot of the editor and publisher. One week, Blackburn beat Mortland in a 2-miler, 14:05 to 14:08, the next week it was Mortland better than 2 minutes ahead in a 1:17:36 10 miler. Finally, Mortland overcame high heat and humidity--or at least, so we boastfully reported--and Blackburn to take a 10 Km race in 47:51. Blackburn had 49:19... In the hinterlands, Ron Daniel won the Ashbury Park 10 miler in 1:20:04, 10 seconds ahead of Art Mark. Henry Laskau, in a rare appearance after his retirement nearly a decade earlier, walked a very creditable 1:22:04 in fifth... In yet another 10 miler, Paul Nihill took the British title in 1:14:55, with Ron Wallwork less than a minute behind.

35 Years Ago (From the April 1970 ORW) - Dave Romansky won the National 35 Km in Des Moines, Iowa in 3:13:13 on a 12-lap course that included one hill that had no place in a walking race since it was impossible to actually racewalk up it. A close and steadily closing second was Australian Bob Steadman, then living in Winnipeg, in 3:14:19. Ron Kulik and Canadian Karl Merschenz captured the next two spots, followed by John Knifton, Goetz, Klopfer, Canadian Marcel John, and Ron Laird--a very classy field... Romansky also won the National 15 Km in Nutley, N.J. in 1:14:09 on a very hot day. Ron Kulik, hosting the race,
beat Steve Hayden for second, with Ron Laird, Ron Daniel, and John Knifton following.

The ORW postal 20 Km went to Laird in 1:22:25 with Tom Dooley just 21 seconds back.

Romansky blitzed the course record in the Zinn Memorial 10 mile in Asbury Park with a 1:10:54. Ron Daniel was 4 ½ minutes back... Will Wesc, a West German, walked a 1:29:02 for 20 Km in London... Granadly Agapov had a 1:29:19 in the USSR.

30 Years Ago (From the April 1975 ORW) — John Knifton won the National 15 Km in Chicago in 1:10:54 with Tom Dooley 42 seconds back. Bob Henderson, the come-backing Larry Young, and Al Shirk followed... Mike Young, from the Colorado TC, won the Junior 15 Km in 1:25:50. The Mexican Revolution of our sport was really starting to blossom and was well demonstrated in a win over Canada. Daniel Bautista won the 10 Km in 42:34 with Enrique Vera just 14 seconds back. The 20 went to Raúl González in 1:27:50 with Pedro Aroche and Domingo Colin also well ahead of Canada’s Marcel Jobin.

25 Years Ago (From the May 1980 ORW) — Carl Schueler won the 50 Km Olympic Trial and, in the process, became the first U.S. walker under 4 hours. Schueler caught Miro Evoniuk on the last of 20 laps and finished in 3:59:33. Evoniuk’s 4:00:30 was also under Larry Young’s previous U.S. best of 4:00:45 in the 1972 Olympics. Dan O’Connor passed Jim Heiring just after 40 Km and went on to take the third spot in 4:11:03. Jim finished in 4:12:37. Vincent O’Sullivan and Wayne Glusker filled the next two spots. A week earlier, Marcel Jobin had become the first North American under 4 hours, winning the Canadian title in 3:54:50.

Jobin also came first in the U.S. 10 Km race in 1:41:73, nearly a minute ahead of Chris Hansen. O’Connor and Steve Pecinovsky were next. Jobin repeated in the Zinn Memorial the next day with a 42:01, ahead of Ray Sharp’s 42:49. Pecinovsky edged O’Connor for third this time. The races were in Chicago... Sue Brodowicz won the U.S. 20 Km in 1:48:22, as Vicki Jones finished second and Lori Maynard third. The men’s 20 was held in Seattle with O’Connor beating a relatively weak field in an excellent 1:26:26. John VanDenBrandt, Terry Lingholm, and Al Halbur followed.

20 Years Ago (From the May 1985 ORW) — With heat slowing the times, Carl Schueler defended his U.S. 50 Km title in New York City. Carl’s 4:18:07 left Marco Evoniuk better than 7 minutes back. Randy Mimm was another 12 minutes back; then came Dan O’Connor, Dan Fricke, and Bob Davidsson. Jim Heiring won the National 5 Km in Denver in a swift 20:21. Dave Cummings had 20:40 to beat Tim Lewis (20:56) for second. Marco Evoniuk, Gary Morgan, and Todd Scully were next. Maryanne Torrellas (23:52) took the women’s title ahead of Ester Lopez (24:25) and Teresa Vaill (24:50). At the Mexican Walk King Week, Martin Bermudez won the 20 Km in 1:23:50, Columbia’s Querétaro Moreno the 1 Hour with 14,270 meters, and Norway’s Erling Anderson the 50 in 3:59:34. Sweden’s Ann Jansson won the women’s 20 Km in 1:36:37. China’s Hong Yan had a women’s world best of 44:14 for 10 Km, with 15 more of her countrywomen under 48 minutes in the same race. Two days later she did 21:43 for 5 Km, but was beaten by Jungji (21:42).

15 Years Ago (From the April 1990 ORW) — National 5 Km races were held in Bethany, Oklahoma with Tim Lewis (21:06) and Teresa Vaill (22:45) winning. Dave McGovern and Ian Whatley were second and third in the men’s race. Victoria Herazo and Susan Liers got the silver and bronze in the women’s race.

10 Years Ago (From the April 1995 ORW) — Chinese women completely dominated the World Cup 10 Km, held on their home turf in Beijing. They finished 1,3,4,12, and 25, beating Italy by 16 points in the team race. (Are the Chinese on a 10-year cycle of brilliant, in-depth performances? See 20 Years Ago, above, and the last couple issues of the ORW.) Honmingao Gao won the race in 42:19, 13 seconds ahead of Russia’s Elena Nikolaeva. With Michelle Rohl in 34th (45:57) and Victoria Herazo 42nd, the U.S. women finished 14th. The Chinese men also did well, winning both races, taking four of the top 10 spots in the 20 and finishing third in the final standings (20 and 50 combined). Mexico was first and Italy second in the team standings. The 20 went to China’s Zhen Wu Li in 1:19:44, 14 seconds ahead of Russia’s Mikhail Schennikov. Bernardo Segura was third for Mexico. In the 50, Yongzheng Zhao led all the way to win in 3:41:20 with Spain’s Jesus Garcia 34 seconds behind. Finland’s Valentin Komonen was third. The U.S. men finished 13th, Allen James was 40th in the 20 (1:35:54). Those two grand vets, Carl Schueler (29) and Marco Evoniuk (37) led the way at 50, finishing 42nd and 47th. Carl had 4:06:45... In a fast Penn Relays 10 Km, Herm Nelson won in 42:06, with the Szela brothers Konasz and Wojciech second and third in 42:15 and 42:55. Chad Eder had 43:02 and Tim Seaman and Curtis Fisher were also under 44... Eder had a 1:28:57 for 20 Km in Kenosha, Wis., beating All Heper (1:31:53). Debbie Lawrence had a 45:18 for 10 at the same venue.

5 Years Ago (From the April 2000 ORW) — In the Russian Championships, Valeriy Silin had a world best for 50 Km with his 3:37:26 and Tatiana Gladkova bettered the World’s best for the women’s 20 Km by more than 2 minutes with her 1:25:18. Four others bettered the old record. The men’s 20 went to Aleksandr Rassakov in a swift 1:17:46, 30 seconds ahead of Vladimir Andreev... In the Naumburg Grand Prix races, Germany’s Andreas Erm covered 20 Km in 1:20:30 to beat China’s Yunfeng Liu; China’s Hongyu Liu won the women’s 20 in 1:29:20, 6 seconds ahead of Australia’s Kerry Saxby-Junna, and Viktor Ginko, Belarus, won the 50 in 3:47:53. In that men’s 20, Curt Clausen was 15th in 1:28:43. Sean Albert had 1:31:12, Philip Dunn 1:31:58, Kevin Eastler 1:33:41, and Tim Seaman 1:37:13. On the women’s side, Danielle Kirk did 1:35:46, Susan Armenta 1:38:14, Gretchen Eastler 1:40:24, Sara Standley 1:42:38, and Victoria Herazo 1:44:38... In a track race in Bergen, Norway, Ecuador’s Jefferson Perez won in 2:22:08. In sixth was Andrew Hermann in 2:23:35. Kevin Eastler did 2:28:05, Sean Albert 2:30:42, and Philip Dunn 2:30:55... Two weeks later in Turku, Finland, Perez did 1:20:30 to beat Mexico’s Alejandro Lopez (1:20:50) and Russia’s Ilia Markov (1:20:53). Tim Seaman had 1:25:47 and Sean Albert 1:28:08 in that one... In the U.S., Michelle Rohl bettered her own U.S. best for 20 Km with a blistering 1:31:53 in Kenosha, Wis., beating Al Heper (1:31:53). Debbie Lawrence had a 45:18 for 10 at the same venue.