U.S. World Cup Trials, Ronkonkoma, New York, April 11


The first three will represent the U.S. at the World Cup in Mexico in May. Trevor Barron had another outstanding performance on a difficult course with many turns and some potholes from a severe winter to dodge. Barron got away early and the outcome was never in doubt. Sorenson, still only 16 also had an outstanding race. Alejandro Chavez, also just 16, stepped up strongly from his usual 1 mile races and beat out Matthew Forgues for the final spot on the team. The two walked together for most of the first 8 Km, but Alejandro managed to accelerate over the final two laps to take the third spot. All four will still be available for World Cup duty in two years. Assuming they all continue to improve we should have an outstanding junior team. The only fly in the ointment is that Trevor Barron might very well be walking the 20 Km on the men’s national team at that time. He could have easily qualified for that team on this day.


None of these young ladies walked fast enough to earn the trip to Mexico, but as with the Junior men, most of them will still be juniors in two years and can earn another shot at World Cup competition.

A disappointing turnout for this race with many potential team members absent due to injury, personal obligations that prevent travel to Mexico in May, and, perhaps, some reluctance to compete at altitude in a city considered by many to be dangerous because of the drug trade. In any case, Patrick Strouge easily won the race and at press time, will be accompanied on the Mexican trip by Dan Serianni. Tim Seaman is passing on the trip. Absentees t who would have been strong contenders for the team were Ben Shorey, Steve Quirke, Chris Tegtmeyer, John Num, and Mike Tarantino.

Augustyn Wins Challenge Race In Dunicu

Dudince, Slovak Republic, March 28—Poland's 25-year-old Rafal Augustyn produced a strong finish to win the 50 km race at the 29th Dudinska Patateoka meet. The European Athletics meeting was the fourth event in the 2010 IAAF Racewalking Challenge Series.

Augustyn's 3:49:54 took 2 minutes off his personal best and led his teammate Artur Brzozowski by just 13 seconds. Ireland's Robert Heffernan was just a stride behind.

Heffernan, sixth in the 2007 World Championships 20 Km, and eighth in the 2008 World Championships 20 Km, and eighth in the Olympic 20 he started making his debut at 50 km and seemed on his way to victory. But, the two poles caught him with about 300 meters to go and he had no answer to their finish.

Heffernan shared the early pace with Norway's Trond Nymark, the 2009 World Championship silver medalist at the distance, but Heffernan went off on his own after 15 km. Starting the final 2 km loop, Heffernan had a lead of 1.20, but started to fold early in that lap. Although having to settle for third, he was rewarded with a National record. Nymark, suffering from stomach problems dropped out after 30 km. "The pain was so bad I couldn't compete with it any longer. I'm unhappy because I was looking for around 3:45 here," commented Nymark.

Augustyn, on the other hand noted: "I was only thinking about third or fourth place today. I did not expect such a good time, nor expect to beat the likes of Nymark or Heffernan. It's also a matter of huge pride that I'm the Polish champion as well (the race was also the Polish championships) and my name will be inscribed on the trophy alongside famous names from the past. I knew in the last four kilometers that I had a chance of winning and, 400 meters from the finish, I started to dream about hearing our national anthem.

The meeting also included 20 km races for men and women though not part of the IAAF Challenge Series and Junior 10 km races among a total of 14 races that saw 271 walkers from 22 nations compete. Results of the 50, and other significant races:

**Men's 50 Km**
- 1. Rafal Augustyn, Poland 3:49:54
- 2. Artur Brzozowski, Poland 3:50:38
- 3. Robert Heffernan, Ireland 3:50:07
- 4. Lukasz Novak, Poland 3:50:30
- 5. Christopher Linke, Germany 3:53:24
- 6. Antonio Pereira, Portugal 3:55:45
- 7. Kim Dong Young, Korea 3:56:40
- 8. Shin Xi Yong, Korea 3:57:46
- 9. Cedric Housaye, France 3:59:20
- 10. Miklos Batowsky, Slovakia 4:01:51

**Women's 20 Km**
- 1. Rachel Seaman, Canada 1:39:25
- 3. Sandra Zapata, Colombia 1:41:35
- 4. Maria Michta, Walk USA 1:43:36
- 5. Scolomia Login, Southeastern Penn 1:44:05
- 6. Miranda Melville, Parkside U 1:47:32
- 7. Stephanie Casey, USA 1:47:42
- 8. Carolyn Kealty, World Class 1:53:02
- 10. Susan Randall, Miami Valley 1:54:05

**Challenge Continues In Portugal With 20 Km Wins by Vera Santos and Erik Tyssse**

Rio Maior, Portugal, April 11 (From the IAAF by Antonio Manuel Fernandes)—Rio Maior was the fifth stop on the IAAF Challenge series and the hometown crowd was excited by Vera Santos' win in the women's 20 km. On the men's side, Norway's Erik Tyssse scored a decisive win.

Santos, the fifth place finisher at the 2009 World Championships, was at the front throughout. In the first 10 km she had China's Yanfei Li, the 2008 World Junior bronze medalist, and Germany's Melanie Seeger for company. After 12 km, only Li remained in contention and soon Santos was on her own. Struggling a bit in the closing stages, Santos finished in 1:29:16. "This was great winning here," said Santos, who was third in the 2008 Racewalking World Cup. "I'm feeling in good shape and felt this was my day. I forced the pace to the finish. I felt that I'm not so good in the final sprint, but I had some good signals after the Portuguese Championship."
Behind Santos, Seeger made a good recovery and forced the pace to finish second in 1:20:11, just ahead of Spain’s Julia Takacs, who improved her personal best by 22 seconds, clocking 1:20:20. Yanfei Li struggled in the late stages, and finished fourth, 33 seconds behind Takacs.

In the men’s race, the contest was clearly between Tysse and Frenchman Yohan Diniz, with Tysse, the winner here in 2008, prevailing. The Norwegian, who also finished third here twice, clocked 1:20:08 to the Frenchman’s 1:20:23.

“The win was a first step towards achieving my main goal, the European Championship podium,” said Tysse, who was seventh at the World Championships at this distance last year. “I’m in good shape and I proved it today. I’m going now for a period of training at altitude, in Arizona, where the Portuguese women Susana Feitor, Ines Henriques, and Ana Cabecinha also train.” Tysse too is planning to compete at the next Challenge Meeting in Sesto San Giovanni.

Behind the leading pair, China’s Zhen Wang, who was sixth in Lugano earlier this season, clocked a personal best 1:20:42 to finish third, ahead of Luis Fernando Lopez of Colombia, the 2008 South American Champion, who clocked 1:21:17. Eder Sanchez of Mexico, third in both the 2008 World Cup and 2009 World Championships, was fifth in 1:21:45, a disappointing performance for him.

Before the start of the competition, the organizers asked for a minute of silence to honor Polish president Lech Kaczynski who perished in a tragic plane crash the day before. Poland’s Grzegorz Sudol did not finish the race. The results:

**Women:**

**Men:**


Other Results


**April 2010—**


**USATFE National Masters Indoor 3000 meters, Boston, March 28:**

Care To Race; There's Many A Place

Sun. May 2
20 Km, Portland, Oregon (B)

Fri. May 7
H.S. Racewalks, Yellow Springs, Ohio (M)

Sat. May 9
Masters 5 Km, Westminster, Col., 8 am (H)

Sat. May 15
5 Km, Denver, 7:15 am (H)

Sun. May 16
National USATF and West Region Masters 15 Km, Riverside, Cal. (Y)

1 Mile and 3000 meters, Falls Church, Va. (N)

Sat. May 22
Midwest Regional 10 Km and Open 3 Km, Dearborn, Mich. (F)

Sat. May 29
5 Km, Littleton, Col., 8 am (H)

2 Miles, Royal Oak, Mich. (F)
From Heel To Toe

Kaniskina honored. Russia's Olga Kaniskina, Olympic and two-time World gold medalist in the 20 Km walk, has been named by the All-Russian Sports Organization as the country's Star of Sport. A great honor for racewalking. The second and third place winners were

A. E. de Witt, www.coachyacht.com
B. Daniel Koch, South Florida Racewalkers, 954-970-9634, racewalker@bellsouth.net
C. Rev. McCall, 511 Lost River Road, Mazzetta, WA 98033
D. Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
E. Elliott Demman, 28 N. Locust, West Long Branch, NJ 07764
F. Dan Chomet, South Florida Racewalkers, 954-970-9634, racewalker@bellsouth.net
G. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
H. Art Klein, 324 Vista, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
I. W. De Witt, www.coachyacht.com
J. Bill Vayo, 25 Rockledge Avenue, #116 East, White Plains, NY 10601
K. Daniel Koch, South Florida Racewalkers, 954-970-9634, racewalker@bellsouth.net
L. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
M. Bill Vayo, 25 Rockledge Avenue, #116 East, White Plains, NY 10601
N. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
O. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
P. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
Q. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
R. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
S. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
T. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
U. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
V. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
W. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
X. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
Y. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
Z. Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073

Contacts:
A- Elliott Demman, 28 N. Locust, West Long Branch, NJ 07764
B-Daniel Koch, South Florida Racewalkers, 954-970-9634, racewalker@bellsouth.net
C-Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
D-www.racewalking.com
E-Bill Vayo, 25 Rockledge Avenue, #116 East, White Plains, NY 10601
F-Frank Soby, 4157 Colonial Drive, Royal Oak, MI 48073
G-www.centralfloridawalkers.com
H-Bob Carlson, 2261 Glencoe St., Denver CO 80207
I-Mike DeWitt, umloc@gmail.com
J-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
K-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
L-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
M-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
N-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
O-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
P-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
Q-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
R-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
S-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
T-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
U-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
V-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
W-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
X-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
Y-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com
Z-Jeff Salvage, www.racewalking.com

from Heel To Toe

Kaniskina honored. Russia's Olga Kaniskina, Olympic and two-time World gold medalist in the 20 Km walk, has been named by the All-Russian Sports Organization as the country's Star of Sport. A great honor for racewalking. The second and third place winners were
so I have a very few records as to those racewalking exploits and performances from 1956, when I first took up racewalking as an inter-high school sport until it was time to take up my teaching position at UT. For folks like me who maybe trained twice a week with a race on Saturday, the emphasis was on winning the team titles at each of the British major championships—at that time the Belgrave Harriers walking team included Stan Vickers (’56 Olympics), Ray Middleton (’60 Olympics), Eric Hall (’56 Olympics), and George Williams, so it was not always easy to make that four-man roster. In my mind, the finest racewalker of that era was the incredibly talented Stan Vickers—he had blazing speed and impeccable style, but like! his temperamental personality and lack of experience in walking in the heat led to decent fist of producing Mexican medals on home ground. But walking was seen as a sport without an obvious dominant force. The previous four Olympic champions (IAAF Press Release by Paul Warburton)

**The Architect of Mexico’s Racewalking Tradition**

Rarely can it be said one man is responsible for an entire country’s worldwide success in athletics—and a success that he started from scratch. History has many examples of coaches rekindling a long-held tradition, perhaps, or a country fetching up a bunch of talented athletes for no particular reason other than coincidence.

But an ex-boxer in a foreign country preaching a discipline barely heard of before? What is even more remarkable about Jerzy Hausleber is that as a Pole, he went to a country about as far removed from his own in culture and ideas—and still produced a hotbed of Mexican Olympic, World, and IAAF Walking Cup champions for 40 years.

To grasp the enormity of the Hausleber phenomenon, imagine if you will, a Norwegian going to Brazil to teach cricket and still producing the World Cup winners for the best part of two decades. Hausleber is now 78, and an icon in the country that granted him naturalization in 1984. No doubt, he will get the same warm reception he gets everywhere in his adopted country when he attends the 24th IAAF World Race Walking Cup in Chihuahua on the weekend of 15/16 May.

Recovering from heart and knee problems, he now limits his activities to coaching coaches, making motivational speeches, and initiating various endurance athletic disciplines that have acolytes soaking up every word. But it wasn’t the case in 1966.

Mexico had been awarded the 19th summer Olympics set for two years hence, and noted the hosts always came up with a gold medal somewhere along the line. But the chances of Mexico producing a sprinter or a field-eventer in athletics were about as remote as Usain Bolt attempting a World record in a sombrero. However, Mexico City is 7000 feet above sea level, so the endurance events were an obvious target for those used to thin oxygen. And race walking was seen as a sport without an obvious dominant force. The previous four Olympic champions in the two events had come from Russia, Great Britain and Italy. Before that, even a New Zealander won the 50k event.

Hausleber was brought in as one of a batch of seven foreign coaches by Mexico’s Olympic head, General José de Jesús Clark Flores, who expected the mercenaries to make a decent fist of producing Mexican medals on home ground. But walking had none of the machismo of say, boxing—and the Pole started with just six athletes after he arrived on May 30, 1966 (Hausleber remembers the exact day).

Fortunately for Hausleber and Mexico, one of them was army sergeant Jose Pedraza. There was nothing promising about Pedraza’s winning time in the Central American Championships in his first go at the sport. His 51:32mins for the 10k is around the pace a decent club walker was recording on training nights even then. But Hausleber’s destiny and that of Mexican race walking was sealed in one 300 meter sprint in the Olympic final on a warm October night two years later.

Vladimir Golubnichiy and Nikolai Smaga entered the Ciudad Universitaria stadium in first and second—but the instant Pedraza appeared right behind, it was clear he was traveling much faster than the two Russians. Pedraza tore past Smaga as if he was stinging still, and cheered on by the ‘Me-lee-co, Me-lee-co’ chants down the home straight, came within two yards of winning gold. The Mexican had every reason to beat himself up for timing his charge too late— he clearly had loads left in the tank. "I think that most observers, including your editor watching on his TV screen, were agreed that Pedraza was flying well of the ground in his closing surge, which, for whatever reasons, went unnoticed by the judges. Golubnichiy, still looking solid, was able to accelerate enough to hold him off.)

But it was just the boost Hausleber needed to create a dynasty of champions that requires one-and-a-half pages of A4 paper in very tiny print just to list. Daniel Bautista, Raul Gonzales, Carlos Mercenario and Bernardo Segura to name but a few, all owe their hero status to the coach.

"At the beginning it was not easy," Hausleber said. "But bit-by-bit after the Pedraza medal, there were more and more young athletes interested in walking. Mexico also offered the chance to keep working there, and walking became popular enough to become almost a national sport."

Three Olympic golds, two IAAF World Championship golds, and 12 IAAF World Walking Cup firsts just for starters—not to mention silvers and bronzes enough to fill a jeweler’s window as well as Pan and Central American dominance for the best part of four decades.

But almost at the time Hausleber called it a day in 2004 on his full-time coaching, the medals mostly stopped for Mexico. Eder Sanchez is the one home-grown walker likely to get to the podium in Chihuahua after winning both the 2009 IAAF Walks Challenge and a bronze in the IAAF World Championships last August.

But the country’s ‘father of walking’, according to his own CV, refuses to criticize the coaching set-up he left—or why there are not more obvious prospects besides Sanchez. Hausleber said: "Because of professional ethics, I have never liked predicting the future for others or speaking about other trainers. My role is strictly as a speaker or a coordinator in the Ministry of Sport in Mexico. I am not comfortable in discussing why there appears to be a bit of a lull in walking triumphs in the country."

For all that, there’s a hint that Hausleber is unhappy with the level of commitment shown by the modern-day Mexican athlete. The tough Pole raised in sight of the Gdansk shipworks emailed his answer for what’s needed to produce another Mexican wave of champions.

He said: "In Mexico as in many other countries, many factors affect this type of situation. One of the most important is that ONE MUST HAVE MORE PASSION AND SFJF DISCIPLINE and work in a scientific and technical professional way as a trainer and athlete." The capital letters were added by a man still clearly passionate about his beloved sport in the country’s he’s called home for 44 years.

An added personal note: Ron Laird and I were fortunate enough to get a jump on the rest of the world in
headed by Jerzy Hausleber. Jerzy met us when we arrived in Gdansk on a Thursday, showed us to our quarters, and got us to a lovely cinder track in the middle of a pine forest near Sopot for a 3000 meter race that evening. While Jerzy spoke little English and Ron, our manager Bill Jimenson, and I spoke no Polish (except for good morning and thank you, which I had learned four years earlier when Ron Zinn and I were the walkers on an earlier national team), we managed to communicate and Jerzy was a wonderful host. The Pole Czaplinski won the 3000 in 12:45.2, 7 seconds ahead of Ron, with me third in 13:09.2, not too far ahead of two other Poles.

The next morning, we moved a few miles to the south to the town of Malbork, for a 20 Km race on Saturday. There, we had a wonderful interpreter, who had once worked as a waiter at the Brown Derby in L.A. and was able to communicate on a wider basis with Jerzy. The 20 Km was on the road from the small town of Sztum (we were told we were the first Americans in Sztum since the end of WWII) to Malbork. Ron won in 1:29:39.6, avenging his loss to Czaplinski by nearly 3 minutes. I came third in 1:34:38.8, my personal best, but for the fact that I am sure the course was somewhat short, the 15 km splits suggesting finishing times of perhaps 2 minutes slower.

We had flown from Warsaw to Gdansk, but on Sunday morning, Jerzy accompanied us on a train ride back, arriving in time for the second day of the US-Poland track meet. I have fond memories of the time we spent with Jerzy Hausleber and have felt honored to have known him at a time he was preparing for all his future successes. His program in Mexico revolutionized the sport.

(With the World Cup of Racewalking coming up the middle of May, here is a brief history of that event, as written by Tim Watt in another IAAF press release. Again, there is mention of Jerzy Hausleber's contributions.)

Race Walking tends to appeal to individuals, nations even, with the mindset of the dogged and determined. The underdog - passionate, defiant, yet unassuming. While, in this toughest of endurance tests, success requires inspiration from within, more often than not, supreme triumph occurs when a group of athletes share the same passion, often inspired by a visionairy leader.

For historic reasons, Mexico shares this passion, arising from the Olympics Games, and the IAAF World Race Walking Cup, a competition that was formed from one man's vision for breaking down barriers between people. With race walking's popularity in Britain and the United States at the turn of the last century it was part of a multi-event competition in the 1904 Olympics, as two track races in the 1906 Interim Olympics, then as full events in the 1908 London Games.

Judging controversies there and in ensuing Games left race walking vulnerable to changes to the program, indeed the rules were standardized by the IAAF after walking was dropped from the 1928 Olympics. The walk distances were set at 20 and 50km from the 1956 Games, but then politics intervened. The Swiss, among other nations, initially decided to boycott Melbourne in protest at Russia's suppression of the Hungarian uprising. After protests, the National Olympic Committee voted to participate, but too late for many athletes to travel.

Armando Libotte, a Swiss 50km champion and sports writer, made it to Melbourne and there conceived of the idea of an alternative competition to be held more in "a spirit of friendship without the troublesome interference of politics. He made a proposal the next year to the IAAF Race Walking Committee and in 1961 the first 'Lugano Cup' (named from its venue) was organized by the IAAF. The biannual event, from 1985 known as the IAAF World Race Walking Cup, is now approaching its 24th occasion and will attract the best race walkers from across the globe.

At Lugano in 1961, and two years later just over the border in Varese, Italy, the 20km races were won by Great Britain's Ken Matthews. Such wins were taken in their stride by Britain at that time. The European and future Olympic champion's main recollection of Varese (as an engineer from the similarly industrial English Midlands) was walking round the local motorcycle plant in the race. From the mid 1960s, results reflected developments in athletics with East German and Russian walkers taking every individual gold medal in the 20 and 50km competitions.

In 1979 the first 'Eschborn Cup' for women was held, in conjunction with the men's Lugano finals in Eschborn, West Germany. As the 1976 Montreal Olympics program was limited to one walk, the IAAF staged a replacement 'World Championship' for those that had dedicated their athletics careers to the 50km event. This precedent, and the growth of Armando Libotte's initiative, then helped the IAAF decide to hold its own World Championships in Athletics. In 1977, in the unlikely setting of Milton Keynes, Great Britain, Mexican race walkers transformed the World Cup, then dominated for a decade.

The Inception for this came a decade earlier. Jerzy Hausleber - a Polish race walker arrived in Mexico on a sports exchange, and in May 1966 was appointed by the President of the Olympic Committee to boost the chances of the host nation's athletes for the Mexico City Games. His coaching inspired José Pedraza to produce the moment of the Games for the hosts, only narrowly missing out on matching the gold medal in the 20km walk - his silver being Mexico's sole athletics medal.

Daniel Bautista, Armando Libotte, and Raúl González, all achieved ultimate Olympic glory under Hausleber in the 1970s and 1980s, plus Carlos Mercenario won silver at Barcelona in 1992. Mercenario holds a joint record three wins in six appearances in World Cups. Aged just 19, in New York's Central Park in 1997, he was inspired to overtake the Olympic champion Ernesto Canto to take the 20km title in a world best time.

Four years later in San José, California, Mercenario benefited from one of the most memorable incidents in any World Cup at the climax of the men's 50km. On the back straight of the final lap of a race long battle with Andrei Grechushnikov, the Russian wouldn’t accept disqualification from Chief Judge Gary Westerfield, and steamrollered past.

With Mercenario the real leader, the race to the line became between Perlov and the judge. Westerfield sprinted, and in front of an amazed grandstand intervened just in time with a DQ paddle and a blocking tackle that wouldn't have looked much out of place on an American football field! Seconds later, Mercenario broke the tape with glee - also in a then event record.

In Chihuahua, Mercenario will be acting in an official capacity, liaising between the Organizing Committee and CONADE (Comisión Nacional de Cultura Física y Deporte) for whom he is coordinator of elite athletes.

Considered the 'Father of Mexican Race Walking', Jerzy Hausleber continues as an authority in coaching, as recently as December presenting a paper to a coaching conference, in Puebla. "Continuity and consistency in training loads, continuous and progressive increase of training and adequate planning and definition of goals with assessment and analysis of the process are his key principles. Modestly, he indicated that "the success of athletes does not emerge solely from the work of the coach".

Science will play a part, but the motivation of race walkers who will triumph at the
24th IAAF World Race Walking Cup Chihuahua on 15 and 16 May, will likely be a shared passion. Certainly, on the streets of the city, there will be noisy cries of “Meh-Hi-Co” from a nation passionate about re-asserting its place in race walking history.

LOOKING BACK

45 Years Ago (From the April 1965 ORW)—Our second issue was still quite parochial in nature as we had yet to develop our vast national and international network of sources (still working on that). However, we did show races in New York City, Kings Point, N.Y., and Toronto on our schedule of events... The big news was Jack Mortland’s defense of Jack Blackburn on the famous Doc Blackburn side-yard track (9.3 laps to the mile). Blackburn held on for 5 3/4 miles of the 8-mile race and then had to stagger in as Mortland’s 6:18 left him nearly 2 minutes behind. The 52-year-old Dr. John Blackburn recorded a 1:15:56. Mortland also won a 12-mile affair in 1:36:32, but fell apart himself in that one, requiring nearly 18 minutes for the final 2 miles.

40 Years Ago (From the April 1970 ORW)—Walking was entering a new era as evidenced by Dave Romansky’s American record 1:58:09 for 25 Km, Tom Dooley’s 13 miles 1090 yards in 2 hours (passing 25 Km in 1:59:20), and Greg Diebold’s 13:28.6 for 2 miles... Romansky also had an American record 50 Km (4:15:23) on the track. Another American record went to Shaul Ladany with his 7:52:04 for 50 miles... Locally, the rapidly aging Mortland (then 35) again hit the wall over the last 2 miles as he won a track 20 Km in 1:40:33. He also won a 10 Km on the track in 48:38, ahead of Paul Rachack’s 49:54.

35 Years Ago (From the April 1975 ORW)—Ron Laird won his 57th U.S. title, and first since 1971, covering 25 Km in 1:56:38 in Seattle... Dave Romansky was still getting around quite well, going 1:34:38 for 20 Km on the track... The World Record for 100 Km fell to Jean-Pierre Garcia of France, who covered the distance in 9:33:06... Ladany was still cleaning up in the ultra-distant, winning the U.S. 75 Km title in 7:22:10, 17 minutes ahead of Dan O’Connor.

30 Years Ago (From the April 1980 ORW)—Walking the second fastest 50 Km ever by an American, Carl Schueler won the National title in New York City with his 4:06:07. Dan O’Connor was 13 minutes behind as Schueler bettered his personal record by 18 minutes... A week later, O’Connor won the National 20 Km in Seattle in 1:26:21, a U.S. best ever and 7 minutes ahead of John VanDenBrandt... In Mexico, Daniel Bautista went through 15,121 meters in an hour, and four days later did 20 Km in 1:20:59 (4700 feet altitude). Soviets were second in both races—Anatoliy Solonm with 15,042 meters and Nikolai Vinitschenko in 1:21:30... In a swift Spanish National 50, Jose Marin did 3:43:55 and Jorge Llopait 3:45:55... Sue Frodlock had the fastest ever 20 Km by an American woman with her 1:45:20.

25 Years Ago (From the April 1985 ORW)—Overtaking Tim Lewis in the final 10 Km, Carl Schueler won the National 30 Km in 2:25:17, 2 minutes ahead of Lewis... Two weeks later, Lewis won the National 25 in Washington, D.C. in 1:52:55, nearly 6 1/2 minutes ahead of Dave Cummings... At the same site, Teresa Vaill won the Women’s National 20 in 1:44:29 with Sue Liers second.

20 years ago (From the April 1990 ORW)—Tim Lewis, dominant at 20 Km, was a surprise winner of the National 50 in 4:10:46, nearly 6 minutes ahead of Marco Evarnik. Mark Manning, Mark Fenton, Eugene Kitts, and Dan O’Connor followed... The Mortland

Invitational 20 Km in Columbus went to Gary Morgan in 1:32:07, with Steve Pecinovsky second in 1:34:12, but the big news was 58-year-old Max Green in seventh with a 1:43:41, a world best for those over 55. Zofia Wanam won the women’s 10 Km in 49:30... In the National Invitational walks in Washington, D.C., Teresa Vaill and Tim Lewis walked to victory. Vaill did 46:21 for 10 Km, leaving Sue Liers more than 4 minutes back. Lewis covered 20 Km in 1:28:05, with R.J hard Quinn (1:29:47) and Curt Clausen (1:30:17) following.

15 Years Ago (From the April 1995 ORW)—Dave McGovern and Victoria Herazo were winners at the National Invitational in 1:28:07 and 46:26, respectively. Philip Dunn finished just 18 seconds after McGovern and Ian Whatley snuck under 1:30. Relative newcomer Joanne Dow was second to Herazo in 47:43, just 5 seconds ahead of Canada’s Pascal Grand... In the Pan Am Games in Argentina, Mexico’s Graciela Mendoza won the women’s 10 Km in 46:32, just 5 seconds ahead of Michelle Rohl. The 50 went to Mexico’s Carlos Mercenari in 3:47:55 with his teammate Miguel Rodriguez second in 3:48:22 and Guatemala’s Julio Urías third in 3:49:37. Allen James did 3:59:27 in sixth. Ecuador’s Jefferson Perez won the 20 in 1:22:53 when Mexico’s Bernardo Segura, who just stayed of him at the finish, was disqualified. Daniel García was second. James and Jonathan Matthews did not finish.

10 Years Ago (From the April 2000 ORW)—Mexico swept the Pan Am Cup walk events in Poza Rica, Mexico, taking the first three spots in both men’s and women’s 20 Km races and the first four spots in the 50. The winners were Guadalupe Sanchez in 1:34:25, Bernardo Segura in 1:22:47, and Miguel Rodriguez in 3:43:51. The U.S. finished second in the team standings. In the women’s 20, Cuba’s Oslaidy Vera was fourth, followed by three more Mexicans and then Michelle Rohl (1:37:49). Susan Armenta was tenth in 1:39:55. In the men’s 20, Ecuador’s Jefferson Perez was fourth and Andrew Hermann led the U.S. in seventh (1:26:39). At 50, Cuba’s Arturo Huerta was fifth in 3:56:01 and Mark Green was the first U.S. walker in 15th... Teresa Vaill had a 1:35:45 for 20 Km to win the National Invitational race. Yet another Mexican, Francisco Patella, won the men’s race in 1:28:55, 30 seconds ahead of John Nunn, with Ian Whatley third... Gary Morgan and Cheryl Rellinger won National titles at 50 Km in Flushing, Michigan. Gary had 2:49:22, just 10 seconds faster than Cheryl. Jill Zimmerman’s 2:49:21 in second behind Rellinger, was more than a minute faster than men’s silver medalist Rod Craig.

5 Years Ago (From the April 2005 ORW)—In U.S. Pan Am Cup Team Trials Tim Seaman and Jeanne Dow won at 20 Km and Maria Michuta and Zac Pollinger won Junior 10 Km races. Seaman had 1:28:32, nearly 5 minutes ahead of John Nunn with Michael Tarantino third in 1:34:33. Dow walked 1:37:04 with Amber Antonio second in 1:38:47 and Deb Huberty third in 1:40:58. Michuta walked 1:38:45, more than 5 1/2 minutes faster than second placer Katy Hayes. Pollinger’s 44:43 left Jared Sweeney well back in 47:11... In IAAF Racewalking Challenge races in Rio Maior, Portugal, Margarita Michta walked 1:38:15, more than 5 minutes back. Mexico’s Bernardo Segura, who just stayed of him at the finish, was disqualified. Daniel García was second. James and Jonathan Matthews did not finish.

PAGE 14
APRIL 2010

PAGE 15
APRIL 2010

8th annual IAAF World Race Walking Challenge Cup in 20 minutes ahead of John Nunn with Michael Tarantino third in 1:34:33. Dow walked 1:37:04 with Amber Antonio second in 1:38:47 and Deb Huberty third in 1:40:58. Michuta walked 1:38:45, more than 5 1/2 minutes faster than second placer Katy Hayes. Pollinger’s 44:43 left Jared Sweeney well back in 47:11... In IAAF Racewalking Challenge races in Rio Maior, Portugal, Margarita Michta walked 1:38:15, more than 5 minutes back. Mexico’s Bernardo Segura, who just stayed of him at the finish, was disqualified. Daniel García was second. James and Jonathan Matthews did not finish.

8th annual IAAF World Race Walking Challenge Cup in 20 minutes ahead of John Nunn with Michael Tarantino third in 1:34:33. Dow walked 1:37:04 with Amber Antonio second in 1:38:47 and Deb Huberty third in 1:40:58. Michuta walked 1:38:45, more than 5 1/2 minutes faster than second placer Katy Hayes. Pollinger’s 44:43 left Jared Sweeney well back in 47:11... In IAAF Racewalking Challenge races in Rio Maior, Portugal, Margarita Michta walked 1:38:15, more than 5 minutes back. Mexico’s Bernardo Segura, who just stayed of him at the finish, was disqualified. Daniel García was second. James and Jonathan Matthews did not finish.