As we enter a new year, may joy bless our lives, may love and compassion fill our hearts, and may peace, tolerance, and understanding spread across the nations.

ORW World and U.S. Rankings

Here we go with the 42nd annual Ohio Racewalker rankings. Yes, 42nd even though, in a typical ORW blunder we labeled last year’s ranking a the 40th (for the second year in a row.) That correction made, let us proceed.

It was late in 1970 that I received a letter (no e-mail then) from Bob Bowman that, surprisingly, Track & Field News had seen the light and was adding the 20 and 50 Km racewalks to their annual World Rankings for track and field events. Bob was asking me, along with Colin Young in England, to assist him in coming up with rankings for the racewalks. T&FN’s panel of experts had little knowledge of, and probably little interest in these events. Colin and I both accepted the invitation, and through our consensus, we gave the “bible” of track and field what it wanted. And we continue to do so, with Ireland’s Pierce O’Callaghan replacing Colin in 2002.

I decided in that first year that I may as well publish the rankings that I had sent Bob, which were slightly different than the consensus, in this humble newsletter, then in it’s sixth year. And, I have continued to do so. In 1972 I added U.S. Rankings and in 1979 Women’s Rankings, both world and U.S. Prior to 1979, it was not the ORW that was being sexist, but the racewalking world itself. We supported women’s racewalking in our pages and included women’s events in the Ohio Track Club’s annual Distance Carnival, but there simply was not sufficient activity to justify any attempt at rankings prior to 1979. The first Women’s rankings were at 5 and 10 Km. After 1985, we ranked only the 10 Km as international competitive at that distance proliferated and significant activity at 5 Km waned. In 1999, the Women’s rankings shifted to 20 Km when that became the distance for international competitions. Someday we hope there will be sufficient competition at 50 to add that.

The ORW rankings are based strictly on the opinion of your editor; arbitrary, but with close attention to the year’s entire performance for each athlete. All gripes are accepted, but once in type, the rankings are most unlikely to change. So here we go.

2005 World 20 Km Rankings—Women

1. Olga Kaniskina, Russia
   1:28:35 (1) Rio Maior 4/9
   1:29:32 (1) Sesto San Giovanni 5/1
   1:29:42 (1) World Championship 8/31

2. Hong Liu, China
   1:29:29 (1) Lugano 3/20
   1:27:17 (1) Taicang 4/22
   1:39:00 (4) London 5/30
   1:29:44 (1) Dublin 6/26
   1:30:00 (2) World Championships (8/31)
### 2011 Top 50 Performers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Valeriy Borchin</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1:25:04</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vladimir Kanaykin</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1:26:05</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Zhen Wang</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>1:28:21</td>
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<td>Russia</td>
<td>1:30:44</td>
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<td>5</td>
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### 2011 World 20 Km Rankings—Men

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### World Championships 2011

- **3rd Place**
  - Valeriy Borchin, Russia
  - Vladimir Kanaykin, Russia
  - Zhen Wang, China

- **4th Place**
  - Stanislav Yemelyanov, Russia
  - Luis Fernando Lopez, Colombia

- **5th Place**
  - Eva Sokolova, Russia
  - Paola Calatayud, Spain
  - Tatyana Shemyakina, Russia

### Euro Cup 2011

- **1st Place**
  - Valeriy Borchin, Russia
  - Vladimir Kanaykin, Russia
  - Zhen Wang, China

- **2nd Place**
  - Stanislav Yemelyanov, Russia
  - Luis Fernando Lopez, Colombia

- **3rd Place**
  - Eva Sokolova, Russia
  - Paola Calatayud, Spain
  - Tatyana Shemyakina, Russia
Again the World Championship race decided many of the placings. However, Lopez, third, drops to third in the rankings. Wang had three very fast races, including his win in Dublin to support his fourth place at the Worlds. Yemelyanov has an Euro Cup win and an impressive race at Rio Major to enhance his fifth at the Worlds. Lopez was only eighth in the Dublin and had a third in the Pan Am Games, besides dropping out of one race. The seventh place finisher at the Worlds, Ruslan Dmytrenko of Ukraine, dropped out of contention with his way-back finishes at Lugano and the World Cup. Chu, only 11th at the Worlds, moves to place finisher at the Worlds, Ruslan Dmytrenko of Ukraine, dropped out of contention with his way-back finishes at Lugano and the World Cup. Chu, only 11th at the Worlds, moves to seventh off his impressive performances in two Challenge races (Lugano and Taicang). Suziki and Barrando, eighth and tenth at the Worlds were impressive enough in other races to take the next two spots. Deng, who did not compete in the Worlds, was an impressive otherwise, except for a poor race in Dublin. He gets the nod over ninth place Worlds finisher Alex Schwaizer of Italy, who was only 12th at Sexto SG in his only other race.

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<td>Koichiro Morioka, Japan</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Matej Toth, Slovak Republic</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Faguang Xu, China</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Chil-Sung Park, Korea</td>
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Breaking into the World Championships order of finish is Yohann Diniz who broke the world record on the track in March. That earned him a fourth spot despite his failure to finish the World Championship race. Likewise, Matej Toth, who also failed to finish in the big race, had the year’s third best time and ranks eighth. In ninth and tenth, Xu and Park met twice, and although Park was ahead in the most important race, it was a very narrow margin compared to the nearly 8 minutes Xu beat him by earlier, so Xu gets the nod for ninth. Next in line was the year’s third best time and ranks eighth. In ninth and tenth, Xu and Park met twice, and although Park was ahead in the most important race, it was a very narrow margin compared to the nearly 8 minutes Xu beat him by earlier, so Xu gets the nod for ninth. Next in line was

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2011 U.S. 20 Km Rankings—Women

1. Maria Michta
   1:30:31 (1) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:34:56 (1) US Championships
   1:38:07 (9) Pan Am Games 10/23

2. Teresa Vaill
   DNF Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:35:36 (2) US Championships 6/26

3. Lauren Forgues
   1:37:41 (3) US Championships 6/26
   DNF Pan Am Games 10/23

4. Miranda Melville
   1:41:40 (4) Pan Am Cup Trials 3/23
   1:38:01 (4) US Championships 6/26

5. Katie Burnett
   1:44:05 (2) Huntington Beach 12/11

6. Erin Casey
   1:40:11 (3) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:44:22 (16) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   DQ US Championships 6/26

7. Erin Talcott
   1:45:01 (6) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:55:51 (20) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   1:41:58 (5) US Championships 6/26

8. Solomiya Login
   1:41:45 (5) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:49:28 (18) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   DNF US Championships 6/26

9. Susan Randall
   1:46:33 (7) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:53:43 (22) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   1:53:45 (1) Dayton 5/8
   1:46:51 (5) London 5/29
   1:49:28 (18) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   DNF US Championships 6/26

10. Maite Moscoso
    1:56:40 (8) Pan Am Cup Trials 3/23
    1:48:38 (1) Coconut Creek 4/16
    DNF US Championships 6/26

2011 Top 14 Performers

1:34:52 Maria Michta
1:35:36 Teresa Vaill
1:37:41 Lauren Forgues
1:38:01 Miranda Melville
1:40:11 Erin Gray
1:40:42 Katie Burnett
1:41:45 Solomiya Login
1:41:58 Erin Talcott
1:43:25 Sisam Radj;
1:48:38 Maite Moscoso
1:53:21 Kathryn Grimes
1:55:03 Erika Shaver
1:56:00 Chelsea Conway
1:56:47 Loretta McGovern

2011 U.S. 20 Km Rankings—Men

1. Trevor Barron
   1:27:32 (1) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:23:26 (1) US Championships 6/26

2. John Nunn
   1:29:08 (2) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:31:25 (11) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   1:25:37 (2) San Diego 4/30
   1:26:19 (3) London 5/29
   1:23:52 (2) US Championships 6/26
   1:25:46 (7) Naumburg 9/24
   1:26:30 (8) Pan Am Games 10/23

3. Patrick Stroupe
   1:27:35 (2) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
   1:33:09 (13) Pan Am Cup 3/27
   1:26:29 (3) US Championships 6/26

4. Tim Seaman
   1:28:48 (1) Huntington Beach 12/4
   1:25:00 (5) Irvine 8/7
   1:25:46 (7) Naumburg 9/24
   1:26:30 (8) Pan Am Games 10/23
   1:26:30 (8) Huntington Beach 12/4

5. Mike Tarantino
   1:31:42 (2) Huntington Beach 12/4
   1:36:33 (3) San Diego 4/30
   1:33:38 (5) US Championships 6/26

2011 Top 24 Performers

1:23:26 Trevor Barron
1:25:00 (5) Irvine 8/7
1:26:29 (3) Huntington Beach 12/4
1:25:46 (7) Naumburg 9/24
1:26:30 (8) Pan Am Games 10/23

1:27:35 (2) Pan Am Cup Trials 2/13
1:33:09 (13) Pan Am Cup 3/27
1:26:29 (3) US Championships 6/26
1:25:00 (5) Irvine 8/7
1:25:46 (7) Naumburg 9/24
1:26:30 (8) Pan Am Games 10/23

2011 U.S. 50 Km Rankings

1. Ben Shorey
   4:16:00 (1) US Championships 7/3
   4:33:25 (9) Pan Am Games 10/29

2. John Nunn
   4:17:27 (1) Huntington Beach 12/4
   4:17:27 (1) Huntington Beach 12/4

3. Tim Seaman
   4:25:18 (2) US Championships 1/23
   4:27:23 (3) US Championships 1/23
5. Y andy Alvarez

6. Y andy Alvarez

7. Jonathan Mathews

8. Michael Mannozzi

4:21:43 (1) Yellow Springs 11/26

9. Dave Talcott

5:04:55 (6) US Championships 1/23

10. Mark Green

4:55:49 (5) US Championships 1/23

The last known U.S. citizenship was still in question. If he is not yet a citizen, or eligible for U.S. National Teams, Dan Serianni, with a 4:54:03 in Yellow Springs on November 26, will move into the tenth spot in the rankings. Just missing the rankings then would be Omar Nash who sixth in the National with a 5:02:02. And of course, we can’t omit Erin Taylor-Talcott at 4:41:36, who will be accepted at the Olympic Trials in January, with the understanding that she can’t win a spot on the team. Some day there will be the opportunity for women to compete internationally at this distance; one way or another the barriers will disappear. Welcoming Erin to the Trials is a first step.

Is There A Race In Your Future?

Fri. Jan. 7 Indoor 1 Mile, Cedarville, Ohio (M) 50 Km, Houston (G)
Sun. Jan. 8 Indoor 1 Mile, Hanover, N.H. 9x0
Sun. Jan. 14 1 Hour and 5 Km, Pasadena, Cal., 7:30 am (U)
Sun. Jan. 28 Indoor 1 Mile, Philadelphia (E)
Fri. Jan. 27 Olympic 50 Km, Santee, Cal. (4:45 Qualifying standard) (D)
Fri. Jan. 27 Indoor 3000 meters, Providence, R.I. (L) (X)
Fri. Jan. 27 Indoor 1 Mile, Philadelphia (E)
Sat. Feb. 4 Indoor 1 Mile, Cedarville, Ohio (M)
Sat. Feb. 5 Indoor 3000 meters, Kenosha, Wis. (I)
Sat. Feb. 11 Millrose National USATF Indoor 1 Mile, New York City (D or M)
Indoor 1 Mile, Reading, Pa. (E)
From Heel To Toe

John Kelly. Many of you know, or know of John Kelly—not Young John Kelly or Old John Kelly, marathoners of note—but the John Kelly; racewalker extraordinary; Irish Olympian, U.S. Centurion #38, winner of many U.S. master’s titles, he who walked across Death Valley in record time, yes, that John Kelly. In the Kelly’s Christmas letter, written by Kati, a high school classmate of mine who married John following the death of her first husband, Kati writes: “for the past five years or so, we have been very concerned about John’s health, especially a difficult and advancing lung disease that results in exhaustive coughing and lack of energy. In addition, this year he experienced a very close call after spending nine days in ICU where a heart problem was discovered. Thankfully a pacemaker has helped resolve that condition. For him days are pretty much limited to a little exercise, rest, reading, watching TV, and petting kitty while receiving life-saving oxygen 24/7. Be it known, however, he is the same competitor about addressing health issues as he was during his athletic career. What a spirit he has displayed.” In an added handwritten note to me, Kati adds: “We thought you might enjoy seeing pictures of how the hospital John was in staged a Rehab Olympics event for the patients. It started with a Torch Relay run through the hallways followed by about eight events done in heats. Bless his heart, John engaged every minute of course and gave it his all. In the 100-meter dash he won and ended up breaking the existing local record for the event.” John and Kati are both very special people. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Their address is: 1105 Wood Spur Circle, Prescott, AZ 86303...

Shaul motors on. And speaking of holiday letters, and of lovers of ultra-endurance events, we also received Shaul Ladany’s annual letter from Israel. Also an Olympian and Centurion, who won several U.S. titles at 75 and 100 Km while residing here in the ‘60s and ‘70s, Shaul summarizes his year’s activities as follows: “The racing year started with the Tiberias Marathon, followed with the Ultra-Marathon in the Judean Hills in which I rolled over several times on very steep down-hill trails and slippery ground, and injuring myself considerably. In March at the New Jerusalem International Marathon I was the oldest participant and the only one in the 75+ age group. Likewise in the Tel-Aviv Marathon 2 weeks later, which was followed next day by the International Marching League Gilboa Walk. The 65 Km Walk around Lake Tiberias was not difficult, but my 75 Km walk in Omer on my 75th birthday turned out to be quite difficult toward the end due to the extreme hot weather. In the Summer I flew alone to Europe despite that Shosh had non-refundable airline tickets, as Shosh decided in the last moment to stay at home. My 14th participation in the 7-day 300 Km Schleswig (Germany) to Viborg (Denmark) walk, followed with my 21st participation in the Nijmegen...
International 4-day march with other 40,000 participants, training in the Swiss Alps, and walking later in Austria on steep mountainous routes 9 marathons (or 40 Kms) in a span of 11 days would have been routine, if on my 5th walking day in Austria I shouldn’t have slipped and fallen on my back and knocked the back of my head to the ground. I was unconscious only a few seconds, got up after a minute and continued to walk after a few more minutes (with some walkers besides me) with some head ache. After a few days gradually the head ache got less intensive, and after 2 months it totally disappeared. In October it was my 51st participation in the Kinnetre (Lake Tiberias) 4.5 Km swim, again without any swimming practice for a whole year, but this time I struggled to complete the mission. After a few local shorter events in September and October I participated walking in the 65 Km biking event around Lake Tiberias, 3 hours of it in a strong rain storm. I followed it with an Ultra Marathon starting and ending in the "Valley" at Kibbutz Hazorea (where last year I got in a fall deep cuts in the palm of my hand that required many stitches). This time I completed it on the last participant, without any trip, fall or injury. A few days ago I have been surprised, but had to wait for the official news release, that I have been elected to the International Jewish Sports HALL OF FAME. Once in 4 years such an election is done, this time I have been elected, and I am the only Israeli. Those elected will be formally inducted in July 2013, on the campus of Wingate Institute, Israel's National Sports Center, near Netanya. "An honor well deserved. More long treks. Writing of these two great race walkers, who stressed endurance, brings to mind two books I read recently—not about race walkers or even athletes, but certainly about long walks. 1. Kevin Grange, "Beneath Blossom Rain". Grange was not a regular walker but was inspired to participate in a "trek" in the Himalayas in Bhutan—apparently well-known among "trekkers" and apparently considered the Everest of trekking. The Snowman Trek covers 216 miles in 11 days at altitudes of 13,000 to 15,000 feet, including 11 mountain passes that carry you to the high altitudes. There are high winds and much snow to contend with. It can be done only with a group and approved guides. His description of the experience and the relationships developed during the trek are fascinating. 2. Tom Ryan, "Following Atticus". These are 48 peaks of 4000 feet and higher in the White Mountains in New Hampshire. Tom, who was not previously a hiker, dedicated himself to doing all 48 one summer and then tried twice to do a "double" (all 48 twice) during the winter season. Although he fell short of 86 peaks both winters, because of weather conditions, what he, and his little dog Atticus, did was amazing. His relationship to the dog—20 pounds far outdid anything much larger dogs have ever accomplished—and what he learned about himself and personal relationships make for an inspiring read. More really long stuff. Reflecting on these two books, which I think race walkers would relate closely to, I might mention someone I met only briefly in October. Marty and I were on a Road Scholar (formerly Elder Hostel) week at Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia. One day of our "Virginia Sampler" was devoted to the Appalachian trail with a speaker who has completed the through trip from Maine to Georgia five times and has also done the Pacific Crest Trail in the west. The Appalachian Trail covers about 2180 miles from Katahdin, Maine to Springer Mountain, Georgia. The Pacific Crest Trail is 2663 miles from the Mexican border to the Canadian border through California, Oregon, and Washington. In the afternoon, we were bussed to a spot on the trail near one of the huts. We had to hike a whole half-mile, on a rainy day, to reach the hut. There was one man resting briefly there, who I accused of our guide of planting, but I am sure that was not the case. This fellow, 57-years old and retired, had ridden his bike from Portland, Oregon to Maine, where he entered the trail in early September. This was mid-October, and he had a few hundred miles to go to complete the trail. Then he had a few hundred more miles on foot to reach his bike, which he had shipped to Florida. He was then going to ride across the Southern U.S. to the start of the Pacific Crescent trail, and hike back north on it to complete a circumvention of the U.S. There's something for you folks with idle time to try. 2014 World Juniors. The IAAF has selected Eugene, Oregon as the site for the 2014 World Junior Championships (for athletes age 16 through 19 on Dec. 31, 2014.) Both men's and women's 10 Km racewalks are included. The likely dates are July 22-27, 2014. National Postal 1 Hour. Elliott Denman reports that through the efforts of Carl Acosta Los Angeles) and Stan Chrominski (Seattle) plans will be put in place to revive the National Postal 1-Hour Walk in 2012. For many-many years, the event was organized by Shore AC of New Jersey. Under new organization, Elliott hopes the event will regain its former stature in 2012. Details to follow. Talcott honored. With his 50 Km effort in Yellow Springs, 51-year-old Dave Talcott (Owego, N.Y.) was named the USAFTP Athlete of the Week. His 4:42:21 Trials qualifier allowed him to join wife Erin at the Trials. Dave noted: "We train really well together even if we are working out separately. We have a nice rivalry. If she goes out and has a great workout, then I'll try to go out and do just a little better—but it is a friendly rivalry." Yep. Seemed to me they were friends when I saw them in Yellow Springs. Dave became the fifth race walker to earn Athlete of the Week honors this year, joining Tyler Sorensen, Ben Shorey, John Nunn, and Trevor Barron. Mulanax also honored. We announced race walking awards for th year in the November issue. Another, not announced until the Annual Meeting in early December was the Lori Maynard Award for the outstanding racewalking official. It went to Ginger Mulanax of St. Louis. Qualifying standards. Qualifying standards for the National Indoor 3000 meter races are 12:45 or 6:25 mile for men and 14:40 or 7:30 for women.
25 Years Ago (From the December 1986 ORW) - In the ORW rankings, Josef Pribilince, Czechoslovakia; Damilano, and Gauder led at 20. Gauder, Vyatschislav Ivanenko and Vasiliy Suntsov, both USSR, were 1-2-3 at 50. The women's 10 was topped by Kerry Saxby, Australia; Ping Guan, China; and Youngji Xu, China. Teresa Vaill, Debbi Lawrence, and Lynn Weik topped the U.S. rankings at 10. At 20 it was Tim Lewis, Carl Schueler, and Ray Sharp and at 50, Evoniuk, Dan O'Connor, and Eugene Kitts. In the 20, 24 U.S. men were under a:35.

20 Years Ago (From the December 1991 ORW) - Alina Ivanova, USSR; Irina Stankina, USSR; and Craciela Mendoza, Mexico were atop our Women's World rankings at 10 Km. Lawrence, Weik, and Victoria Herazo led the U.S. women. At 20, the World rankings saw Mikhail Schennikov, USSR; Damilano, and Yevgeniy Misyula, USSR, and at 50 it was Carlos Mercenario, Mexico; Andrei Perlov, USSR; and Aleksandr Potashev, USSR. In U.S. rankings, Tim Lewis, Allen James, and Gary Morgan were 1-2-3 at 20, and Schueler, Evoniuk, and Herr Nelson at 50. Evoniuk topped his season with a 4:04:46 on Dec. 15 in San Francisco, beating both Nelson (4:05:33) and Schueler (4:06:21). Canada's Tim Berrett did a 3:21:30 in the New York City Marathon.

15 Years Ago (From the December 1996 ORW) - A late-arriving result had France's Thierry Toutain breaking the World Record for 50 Km back in September with a 3:40:37.9 on the track in Haricourt. He was 40.5 seconds under Raul Gonzalez's old record. The first three in our World rankings were: Women's 10 Km—Yelena Nikolayeva, Russia; Elisabetta Perrone, Italy; and Yan Wang, China. Men's 20-Kefrissor Perez, Ecuador; Ilya Markov, Russia; and

20 Years Ago (From the December 1991 ORW) - Alina Ivanova, USSR; Irina Stankina, USSR; and Craciela Mendoza, Mexico were atop our Women's World rankings at 10 Km. Lawrence, Weik, and Victoria Herazo led the U.S. women. At 20, the World rankings saw Mikhail Schennikov, USSR; Damilano, and Yevgeniy Misyula, USSR, and at 50 it was Carlos Mercenario, Mexico; Andrei Perlov, USSR; and Aleksandr Potashev, USSR. In U.S. rankings, Tim Lewis, Allen James, and Gary Morgan were 1-2-3 at 20, and Schueler, Evoniuk, and Herr Nelson at 50. Evoniuk topped his season with a 4:04:46 on Dec. 15 in San Francisco, beating both Nelson (4:05:33) and Schueler (4:06:21). Canada's Tim Berrett did a 3:21:30 in the New York City Marathon.

10 Years Ago (From the December 2001 ORW) - Russia's Olimpiada Ivanova took the number one spot in the ORW's World rankings at 20, followed by Elisabetta Perrone of Italy and Valentina Tsybulskaya of Belarus. The men's World rankings: 20 Km—Roman Rossakov, Viktor Burayev, and Ilya Markov, all of Russia. 50 Km—Robert Korzeniowski, Poland, Jesus Garcia, Spain, and Edgar Hernandez, Mexico. U.S. rankings: Women's 20—Michelle Rohl, Amber Watson, and Jill Zenner. Men's 20—Curt Clausen, Tim Seaman, and Sean Albert. Men's 50—Clausen, Philip Dunn, and Seaman.

5 Years Ago (From the December 2006 ORW) - In the Australian Championships, Nathan Deakes bettered the world record at 50 Km, winning in 3:35:47. Second was Duane Cousins in 3:35:19 with Jared Talent third in 3:35:08. 6-year-old Andrew Jamieson had a 4:27:40. Jamieson later did a 22:53 for 5 Km. World rankings for 2006: Women's 20 Km—Ryta Turava, Belarus; Olimpiada Ivanov, Russia; and Olga Kaniskina, Russia. Men's 20 Km—Francisco Fernandez, Spain; Ilya Markov, Russia; and Jefferson Perez, Ecuador. Men's 50—Denis Nizhegorodov, Russia; Nathan Deakes, Australia; Yohan Diniz, France. U.S. rankings: Women's 20—Joanne Dow, Teresa Vaill, and Jolene Moore. Men's 20 Km—Kevin Eastler, John Nunn, and Tim Seaman. Men's 50 Km—Philip Dunn, Ray Sharp, and Theron Kissinger.

I wish you all a prosperous New Year. Perhaps we should all, regardless of or our personal faith or beliefs, heed the words of the prophet Micah to: "... do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly. ..."