Harris tops Mueller in National Masters 15K

UTICA, NEW YORK, July 15. Brian Harris of Royal Oak, Michigan, won the National Masters 15-kilometer run for 40-44-year-olds by defeating world veteran's marathon

champion Fritz Mueller. Harris' time was 50:58, good for 11th overall. Mueller clocked 52:06.

The championships were part of the Utica Boilermaker Road Race. Over 1200 started, but only 945

finished due to the heat. The temperature was 87 with high humidity on a certified course.

-FROM HOWARD RUBIN

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Meeting of World Veterans Athletic Association

HANNOVER, Germany, July 31. The biannual meeting of the General Assembly of the World Veterans Athletic Association was held in conjunction with the World Championships.

The WVAA is a loosely organized group which is struggling successfully to bring a semblance of order to the vagaries of the veterans movement.

Although the meeting was open to any veteran athlete, the site (at the Hannover Stadthalle) was so far removed from either the stadium or the center of town that many who might have attended didn't, either because they didn't know where to go, or because they got lost trying to find it.

"They must still be trying to keep us rabble out of the decision-making process," said one athlete who got lost in the woods near the site.

Nevertheless, about 80 resolute souls found their way. Those entitled to vote were the four officers of the WVAA, six regional representatives (from North America, South America, Asia, Europe, Oceania and Africa), one member from each country, and an additional member from each country for every 500 competitors.

Each country determined its own number of competitors, a very loose and potentially divisive situation. However, there were no challenges to any voter. Indeed, voting became so loose that virtually anyone there who cared to vote, did.

Official USA delegates were Bob Fine, Wendell Miller, Ruth Anderson, Bob Boal, Don Johnson and Irene Obera.

WVAA President Don Farquharson chaired. Secretary Roland Jernedryd took the minutes.

The agenda:

1. By a vote of 38-13, the name of the organization was officially changed to "World Association of Veteran Athletes." (WAVA)

2. English will be the only official language at all WAVA meetings, with an interpretation in French immediately given. No dissent.

3. Presentations were made by delegations who wished to host the 4th World Games in 1981.

a. Yugoslavia withdrew, asking to be considered in the future.

b. Australia proposed the Games for Sydney in the summer of 1981, which is Australia's winter. "Sydney is a fun city, with a new track and low prices," was the pitch. "The weather will be cool but ideal for long distance runners."

c. Japan proposed limiting the number of competitors since "3000 is too many to handle properly."

d. New Zealand advocated Christchurch in January, 1981, which is summer in the Southern Hemisphere. "A good climate, low prices, community support, and top facilities" were promised. The World Veterans Road Racing Championships are set for New Zealand at that time, so you can run both." Although the WAVA constitution mandates that ALL veteran athletes be allowed to compete, regardless of national origin, none of the potential hosts could definitely promise the South Africans could compete. "We are subject to the wishes of our government," they all said. "We intend that everyone should compete, but if our government says no, it's no."

In a secret vote, New Zealand was awarded the 1981 Championships. (No vote was announced, but on August 24, Secretary Jerneryd revealed the vote was: New Zealand 49, Australia 21, Japan 1.)

The preliminary schedule is:

January 3-4, 1981; Palmerston North; Road Running 25km and 10km January 5, Christchurch, Executive Council Meeting.

January 6, Christchurch, Women's meeting, Regional meetings and General Assembly meeting.

Jan. 8-14, World Veteran Athletic Championships, including cross-country, marathon, road walk.

4. To resolve potential conflicts between two or more groups from one country, each claiming it is the "official" delegation from that country, a motion was made that neither group could vote unless it represented at least 75% of all members of that country. Bob Fine moved that, because of the complexity of the question, it be referred back to the Executive Council. Motion passed.

5. A proposal to change the date of eligibility for all athletes from the date of birth to the year of birth was defeated 27.44

defeated, 27-44.

6. A lengthy discussion about "standards" ensued. The Executive Council had voted 8-2 to impose standards for awarding medals. If, for example, there was only one entrant in an event, the athlete would have to meet a minimum standard to receive a medal. (That system had been used in the North American Championships on June 10 with mixed reviews.)

"Today, one woman was laughing at us as she jumped five feet just to get a gold medal," said Harm Hendricks. "It's ridiculous."

Others felt that giving out medals was a good way to encourage more participants in the movement; that an event with only one entrant today might well see ten or twenty entrants tomorrow.

National USA Records Chairman Pete Mundle said it would be "very difficult, at this time, to set standards, particularly in the older age groups."

The motion to establish standards was defeated by voice vote.

7. John Hayward of Great Britain announced that an informal Statistical Committee had been formed, consisting of Pete Mundle, USA; Alistair Aitken, Great Britain; Gys Knoppert, Holland, and himself. Its purpose will be to coordinate world records. An official form will be prepared, which will be used to submit new marks.

8. A proposed Constitutional Amendment to establish a "Discipline Committee" to determine infractions, such as lying about one's age, or striking an official, was referred to a sub-committee to look into it further.

9. A motion was made to unanimously renominate all officers for an additional two-year period. By voice vote, the motion passed. It was an illegal vote, since the Constitution says officers "shall be elected by secret ballot." No one was given an opportunity to nominate anyone else, but no one protested the illegality, either, so the outcome would likely have been the same even if the rules had been followed.

10. Jean O'Neil replaces Hazel Rider as women's representative of the WAVA.

11. Decathlon championships will be held every even year. A motion to award the event to Germany in 1980 and Britain in 1982 was approved. "Will the Germans ban the South Africans again," it was asked. The question was referred to the executive council.

12. As much as is possible, the Championships shall be shifted among the six regions, with those regions not having had their turn in hosting the Championships being given preference. Motion passed.

13. All proposed amendments to the Constitution, all nominations for officers, and all nominations for hosting the world championships must be submitted in writing to the Secretary 90 days before the meeting of the General Assembly. Motion passed. That means if you want to run for anything or change the rules, you must submit it before October, 1980.

14. A motion by the North Americans to establish relay teams by region instead of by nation was tabled until 1981.

15. Ian Hume underscored a major problem; that of a shortage of officials who understand athletes' questions because of language barriers. He suggested bilingual athletes help out wherever possible.

Budget report

HANNOVER, GERMANY, July 30. As you know, Financial Fitness, Inc., the marketing arm of the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of North Carolina, is sponsoring our program in 1979 with a grant of \$35,000.

Although National Masters AAU Treasurer John Bevilaqua was unable to be in Hannover, National co-chairman Bob Fine and Wendell Miller sat down with SPa-AAU Chairman Tom Sturak and your editor to analyze the financial status of the USA masters program.

While exact figures will have to come from Bevilaqua, our aim is to always keep you as informed as possible as to what's going on.

Here's the approximate status of the \$35,000 as of this date. Eastern Indoor Championships Champion-Eastern Indoor ships-\$1000 Indoor Champion-National ships-\$1000 Midwest Indoor Championships—\$350 June & July Newsletter-\$2700 August thru December Newsletter-\$7000 (not yet paid). Western Regional Championships-\$1000 with \$2500 not yet paid. Pan-American Games (Calif.)-\$1000, with \$2500 not yet paid. National Rankings (Geza Feld)—\$500. Eastern Outdoor

All amounts listed for the following

purposes have not yet been paid: Eastern Outdoor Championships-\$1000. Midwest Oudoor Championships—\$1500 Mid-America Championships—\$500 Medals & patches—\$2000 Delgates to Las Vegas AAU Convention—\$3000 Age-Group Directory—\$2000 Age-Grading Records (National Data Running Center)—\$2000 **National Outdoors** Championships—\$3000 Total paid to date is \$7550 and total unpaid is \$27,000.

It's not certain whether Financial Fitness, Inc. will again sponsor our program in 1980.

If it should not, we must support the newsletter and national and regional championships on our own.

Starting in January, the subscription price for the newsletter will be \$10 a year, payable each Jan. 1.

To those who are registered with the AAU or with a participating Masters club, the price will be \$8.

Each club will be asked to help solicit subscriptions from its membership. Any subscription so received will cost the member only \$8 rather than \$10.

We'll shortly provide each club with a subscription blank which you can insert in your own newsletter. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Suggestions to New Zealand for 1981

As we reported in September and in this issue's "Hannover Diary," not all was moonlight and roses in Hannover.

Although the Germans generally ran a tight, precise, well-organized meet with first-rate equipment and technology, a vital human element was noticeably missing.

The main object of a World Veterans Championships is to have some fun. Someone in authority forgot that. Or never knew it.

Athletes charged the Germans "cheated" and claimed the meet was a "giant ripoff."

More than one Master cut short the trip and headed for home. Others promised they'd never return.

For specifics, see the "Hannover Diary" story.

Sir Ronald Scott, the New Zealand representative, vowed he wouldn't repeat the German mistakes. He asked for suggestions from the athletes to guide the 1981 organizers.

Here are a few:

-The program and numbering

system were superb. Don't change it.

—Don't charge for the program. It should be included as part of the entry fee.

—Provide a one-week free bus

-Provide discounted tourist tickets to local sights.

-Don't charge for results.

—Schedule events one at a time, so a person doesn't have to choose between watching two fine events. Start early and finish at 10 or 11 p.m., not 5 p.m. as in Hannover.

—If a second track must be used, use it for the spring preliminaries, rather than for distance finals.

—Don't run heats and finals of an event the same day. It's too exhausting. Preferably, skip a day between a heat and a final.

—Seed those races which are run in sections. (5000 & 10,000).

—Get plenty of bi-lingual interpreters to solve problems, answer questions, etc.

—Get adequate judges for the walks.

-Type and post results daily.

—Don't divide men and women into separate categories. Treat all the same. Stage and event, starting with the oldest women's division to the youngest, and immediately follow with the oldest men's to the youngest.

-Don't ban anyone from competing who qualifies by age.

-Arrange for knowledgable announcers.

-Arrange for bi-lingual announc-

Follow the WAVA rules for hurdle heights & distances; and for implement weights.

-Provide a banquet or get-together at reasonable cost.

—Try to arrange for low-cost housing near the track.

—On the final day, stage a relay carnival, featuring all standard relays. (400, 1600, 800, sprint medley, distance medley, 3200 and 4-mile).

Send your thoughts and suggestions to:

Sir Ronald Scott

New Zealand Association

of Veteran Athletes

P.O. Box 31-102

Ilam, Christchurch, New Zealand

North American meeting

Dear Diary

By BOB FINE

it happened after my usual evening run. I had just completed five miles, clutched my carotid artery for my pulse, checked my stop-watch for my time, rushed to my sacle for my weight and then sat down to record it all in my diary. The fact that my family was kept waiting for our evening vittles, for some reason, seemed to irk my spouse.

"Just what is so important about that diary, anyway?" she inquired. "You simply don't understand

anything, woman!" I replied. "It is the cornerstone of all my training. The cement of my program. The woof of the fabric of my conditioning."

Acting like the typical female whose dinner is kept waiting, she snarled, "Your cliches won't help you. Show me the correlation between all your statistics and your performances."

The challenge could not be ignored. After all, I spent seven years in recording such data as weight, heartbeat, intensity of effort, distance, type of workout, weather conditions, performance points (using Gardner and Purdy's tables) and age-grading points (using Ken Young's tables) plus color-co graphs and monthly summaries. The fact that I was usually late for dinner was insignificant compared to the wealth of statistics I was compiling. Accordingly, I gobbled my meal and set about correlating my seven years worth of statistics.

Eight hours later, with trembling voice, I awoke my beloved (it was now 3 a.m.) and announced, "I can't find any damn correlations!" Michaelangelo would have felt the same way I did if his Sistine Chapel collapsed. My wife tried to console

me but it was equivalent to finding out that your parents engaged in sex.

What to do? Since I am essentially lazy, I reasoned that if variations in my weight, effort, mileage and type of workouts had no discernible effect on my performance that I might as well relax and enjoy. Don't think it was easy to get up in the morning and give up my usual routine of seeking to eliminate the last ounce of waste from my body to cut down my weight. It was difficult to adjust my body balance to running without my stop watch. Not writing in my diary was saying "Goodbye" to a beautiful mistress. I now sneaked by my desk. It was easier to give up cigarettes. The withdrawal symptoms lasted for over a month.

I'm over it. After six weeks without the diary, weighing myself, timing myself, taking my pulse, and preparing my charts (except for keeping a record of my competitive performances) I'm doing just as good—or bad—as I did before. The advantage is that I now eat what I feel like and when I feel like. I no longer knock myself out to accomplish another mile to meet my quota. I'm eating my meals on time.

Now don't get me wrong. After having run for 33 years, I have a good idea as to the training I should undergo. I still put in my miles and still work hard at getting the most out of myself. What I no longer do is to be concerned about how things will look on the charts I no longer keep. I am more subjective in my training. A diary can be of great value to a new runner, but for me it was becoming a burdensome obsession.

My wife has made all of my charts into a collage. Although they didn't tell me much they sure look pretty. HANNOVER, GERMANY, July 29. Bob Fine, North American representative to the World Association of Veteran Athletes (WAVA), conducted a meeting of the North American region, one of six regions in the WAVA.

He proposed, and received approval, that the North Americans support, at the July 31 General Assembly meeting:

1. Eligibility based on date of birth, not year of birth.

2. South Africans and everyone else being permitted to compete.

3. Forming relays by region rather than by nation to diffuse the potent nationalism issue.

4. Rejecting "standards" as criteria for receiving medals in World Games.

Fine clarified the confusion that results from various meets being called "North American Championships" and "Pan-American Championships."

"The Pan-American Masters Championships which are scheduled for San Juan, Puerto Rico on Labor Day, 1980," he said, "are not the same as the Pan-American Masters Championships which are held in Southern California."

(Clearly, it's a popular name. The Puerto Rico meet will presumably have IAAF and AAU sanction. The chairman of the Los Angeles' Pan-Am meet, Hilliard Sumner, says: "We began calling our meet the Pan-American Championships in 1977. It's sponsored by Home Savings & Loan. We'll hold it each year in mid-August in Los Angeles.

To avoid confusion, I'll call it the "Home Savings Pan-American Championships." We'll feature the complete track and field schedule in 5-year age groups for men over 30, and 10-year age groups for women over 30.")

Fine said the "North American Championships" is a revolving event. In 1978, it was held in Raleigh, North Carolina, and was also known as the Southeastern Championships. In 1979, it was held in Toronto. In 1980, uncertain. The Southeastern Championships are an early-May staple in Raleigh. Director Bob Boal says: "It was the biggest Masters meet in America this year with 569 competitors."

It becomes confusing, but Fine explained the purpose of all these meets is to "give veterans the choice of many meets in various locales."

The only downside to so many meets is that each becomes diluted. Athletes don't know which ones to point for. A meet-per-week is too much for the average Master. So each meet winds up with less competitors.

Worst, sometimes two major meets are scheduled for the same day. On June 10, 1979, both the North American Championships in Toronto and the TFA/USA Championships in Pittsburgh were held. Both meets suffered as athletes were forced to choose between them. Coordination of schedules is needed.

Which is more important? The National Championships? Regional Championships? North American? Southeastern? Pan-American? Home Savings Pan-American? TFA/USA?

At the moment, none, really. The National Championships, by its very name connotes prestige, but there is no official hierarchy at this time.

The four nations bidding for the 1981 World Championships presented their case (Yugoslavia, Japan, New Zealand and Australia). No vote of preference was taken. Attendees were asked to convey their choice to one of the official American delegates, who would vote at the July 31 WAVA meeting.

Cartwright sets 3 U.S. marks in Pan-Am

POMONA, CALIF. July 21-22. A new star has entered the Masters Track and Field world.

Carol Cartwright, the U.S. women's 50+ marathon record holder (3:04:53) has been dominating the long-distance circuit for a couple of years. She's been featured in dozens of newspaper and magazine feature articles.

In the 3rd Annual Home Savings Pan-American Masters Track and Field Championships, she decided to try for a change of scenery.

It suited her, as she obliterated three American women's 50+ track records. She won the 10,000 in 39:25.2, the 5000 in 20:25.4 and 1500 in 5:45.0 to break the old marks of 46:17.0, 22:34.0 and 6:13.1, respectively, all held by Jan Newhart of Honolulu.

(Interestingly, her 10,000 time, if divided into two 5000's, would be 19:42.7 each, faster than her new 5000 mark.)

"I really enjoyed it," she said, "I'm going to start running in all the Masters meets. I really love the long-distance runs, with the trees, scenic paths and all the wonderful people I meet. I didn't think I'd like running around a track. But I do."

The Reseda 1st-grade school teacher has been training with Laszlo Tabori's San Fernando Valley Track Club for only two years.

The popular meet attracted 264 entrants, including 34 from Mexico and 15 from Colombia.

Meet chairman Hilliard Sumner provided a beautiful slick program, with letters of welcome from Governor Brown, Mayor Bradley and Richard Kremer, Vice-President of Home Savings & Loan.

Among winners tuning up for the 3rd World Championships in Germany were Avery Bryant, Jim O'Neil, Shirley Kinsey, Clarence Killion, Ozzie Dawkins, Sid Madden, Bud Deacon, Walt Frederick, Tom

Patsalis, Al Henry, Bob Hunt, Gary Miller, Ed Oleata, Bob Humphreys, Dave Brown, Vic Cook, Dave Jackson, Phil Conley, Bill Morales, Ron Laird and John Allen.

Sub-masters Doug Wells and Sumner were voted best field and track performers in the meet. Wells won the 35-39 javelin in 201'6" and Shot in 53'2" and took 2nd in the Discus behind Ed Kohler in 153'8".

Sumner won the age 30-34 400 in 48.08, and anchored the winning So. Calif. Strider 400 and 800 relay squads

Outstanding athletes by division: MALE

30-34. Ruben Whitney, who won the 100 in 10.64 and 200 in 22.32.

35-39. Dennis Dyce, who won the 400 in 48.74 and 200 in 22.50, giving Walt Butler his first Masters defeat

in years in the 200.

40-44. Al Henry. Al won the 110-hurdles in 14.99, triple jump in 43'6'' and long jump in 21'2'4''.

45-49. Dave Jackson, taking the long jump in 20'8¾'', triple jump in 42'8" and 110-hurdles in 16.12.

50-54. Bill Fitzgerald, copping the 800 in 2:08.7 and 1500 in 4:49.9, just nosing out newcomer Gunnar Linde's 4:40.0.

55-59. Avery Bryant, who garnered the 800 in 2:18.0, 1500 in 4:59.9 and Steeple in 12:49.

60-64. Don Longnecker, winning the 800 in 2:28.7 and 1500 in 5:00.3.

65-69. John Satti, victorious in the 400-hurdles in 75.5, long jump in 16'2'4' and triple jump in 27'10'34''.

70+. Red Doms, a winner in the triple at 20'11½'', 2nd in the Javelin with 94'10", 2nd in the Hammer in 86'2", and first in the long jump at

9'2½", shot put in 35'2¼", and discus in 106'11".

FEMALE

30-39. Diane Uribe took firsts in the 20K walk in 2:10:43 and 5K walk in 27:25.

40-49. Ursula Schreiber placed 2nd in the shot in 24'10", 2nd in the javelin in 57'11" and 2nd in the Discus, 70'.

50-59. Carol Cartwright, mentioned above.

Sumner announced the 4th Annual Home Savings Pan-American Championships will be held in Los Angeles every year. The 1980 meet is set for mid-August.

The meet should not be confused with the proposed IAAF-AAU sanctioned Pan-American Championships scheduled for Puerto Rico on Labor Day, 1980. (See "North American Meeting" story).

The terrible track meet

This appalling event was held on Aug. 26 in the mystic East (Suffolk County) with the performances sinking to a pitiful low.

Tom Hoffman received the third place trophy for the "Worst Performance" with a 13.3 in the 100-yard dash and an outstanding ten feet in the long jump. It was Tom's form in the long jump that clinched the award for him. He could best be described as a gazelle suffering from extreme jock itch.

Glo Fine received the second place award based on her miserable throw of 12 feet 1½ inches in the 12-pound shot (she thought the shot was thrown as one would toss a hand grenade) and her indescribable mile in 11:00.2.

Hiry West, who modestly tried to refuse the award, won first place with a toss of 16 feet 21/8" in the shot (he did it all on wrist motion). Hiry almost lost the trophy when he put on a furious finish in the mile with two yards to go and out-collapsed Glo Fine by two-tenths of a second in the time of 11:00.0.

Capt. Haig Bohigian couldn't control his competitive zeal so he competed in the 100-yard dash in 37.9 seconds, running backwards.

After the bruised and battered bodies were scraped off the track, everyone retired to Harold and Thelma Colen's house for wine, cheese, hot dogs, corn-on-the-cob, beer and a swim. Having caught our collective breaths, we then watched the World Cup on TV. If only our club had competed for the U.S. in that meet we would have set amateur athletics back 2000 years. However, our advice to the athletes who did compete was impeccable. Too bad they didn't listen to us.

A great time was had by all. Blessings to Harold and Thelma. All the participants vowed not to train for the next meet.

Running scholarships

By TIM DYAS

The annual Ridgewood, New Jersey, Memorial Day runs of 5k and 10k organized by the South Jersey Masters Track and Field Club have grown from 250 in 1976 to 4022 this past year. With an outstanding volunteer race director in the person of Manfred d'Elia, club president, and other club volunteers, the club has raised funds for scholarships.

The criteria for selection were that the senior had to letter in track and field or cross-country; plan to continue in athletics in college; show financial need; and secure a letter of recommendation from a coach.

Winners of the first \$500

scholarships: Tom Bardzell, who ran the 880 and mile for Midland Park High School; Mike Alberse, a Ramsey High School miler, and two Ridgewood High School field standouts, Sarah Miles, who threw the shot for the girls' team, and Mike Shanahan, a javelin thrower on the boys' team.

Tom will attend Bergen County Community College; Sarah heads for Duke; Mike Alberse has enrolled in New Haven College and Mike Shanahan has matriculated at Central College of Iowa.

It is planned to award these scholarships on an annual basis.

Vets marathon next year in Scotland

The Thirteenth Annual World Championships in Road Racing will be held August 23-24, 1980, in Glasgow, Scotland, according to a recent announcement by the International Association of Veteran Distance Runners. The world championships alternate each year between a marathon and 25 kilometers and in 1980 it is the marathon's turn. There is also a championship at 10,000 meters, also on the road.

The 1978 marathon was held in Berlin and won by Fritz Mueller of New York; the 1979 25-kilo was in Boulton, England, one week before the World Veterans Championships in Hannover, Germany.

Next year's race will be organized by the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club in association with Glasgow Sports Promotion Council. Women over 35 and men over 40 on the day of the race can compete in five-year age classes.

The program will begin at 10:00 on Saturday, August 23, with a family jog over what sponsors call "a pleasant 8-kilometres trail." The 10,000 is the same day at 2 p.m. The marathon begins Sunday morning at 9:30. According to the organizers: "The whole weekend will be one of great fellowship, goodwill and festivity. An exciting one for all keen veteran distance runners, their families, friends and supporters."

Those wanting additional information can write: The Organizing Committee, 1980 World Veteran Events, Scottish Amateur Athletic Association, 16 Royal Crescent, Glasgow G3 7SL.

Hal Higdon says that his organization, Runtours, might be interested in organizing a trip to Glasgow next August if interest warrants. The secret is to obtain enough people (minimum:15) to qualify for lower group fares. Anyone interested in a Scottish marathon holiday should communicate this interest to Runtours, Inc., PO Box 46, St. Joseph, Mi. 49085.