



# from the editor

*E. Gary Hill*

**AS I SAY EVERY 8-PLUS YEARS**, here at *T&FN* we like to think of every one of our monthly offerings as a “landmark issue,” but among the landmarkiest are the centenary issues. In the rush of the NCAA Championships last month, we had no time to mention how special the August issue was, marking as it did, edition No. 800 we’ve published since the first one rolled off the presses, dated February 1948. A trip down 7 previous Memory Lanes:



**ISSUE 100, MAY 1956.** Back in the days when the layout was more newspaper-like, the front page featured stories on four World Records: Dave Sime with a pair of 220 straightaway marks (22.2 over the hurdles, 20.1 on the flat), Parry O’Brien with a 61-1 put and Leamon King’s 9.3 for 100y. King got a picture, as did Jim Bailey for upsetting WR holder John Landy in a 3:58.6 mile before 38,543 fans in Los Angeles.



**ISSUE 200, SEPTEMBER 1964.** Ralph Boston made the front page for upping his own long jump WR to 27-4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in winning the Olympic Trials, which we somehow covered (men only) in a concise 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> pages. Most of the issue was dedicated to a preview of the Tokyo Games. Briton Lynn Davies, who would upset Boston and Igor Ter-Ovanesyan for the gold, was only picked for 5th place.



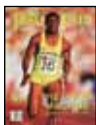
**ISSUE 300, II MAY 1971.** The “Dream Mile” lived up to expectations, with Marty Liquori outdueling WR holder Jim Ryun. “Jim made it boring by being so good,” said Liquori of Ryun’s previous dominance. “Maybe we can make it interesting again.” To blunt Ryun’s speed, Liquori went out hard. “I wanted us both sagging in the stretch, looking more like boxers,” he said. His strategy worked.



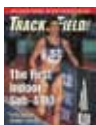
**ISSUE 400, JANUARY 1978.** The Athlete Of The Year crown for ‘77 went to Cuba’s incredible 400/800 talent, Alberto Juantorena. It was the second win in a row for El Caballo, but it was the closest voting ever as he beat Edwin Moses by only 4 points. Moses actually lost a race during the season: that was something that wouldn’t happen to him again for another decade.



**ISSUE 500, JUNE 1986.** Up-front honors went to Texas A&M frosh Randy Barnes. Just a 66-9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> putter with the 12-pounder a year before, he had exploded to 71-9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> with the 16 to replace shot icon Randy Matson as Aggie school record holder. It had been a good month for American Records, Joe Dial claiming three in the vault, Jud Logan getting a pair in the hammer and JJK upping the heptathlon standard.



**ISSUE 600, NOVEMBER 1994.** One of the brightest covers ever featured “The Green Machine,” Dennis Mitchell, who had just won the Grand Prix 100 title over Linford Christie, Jon Drummond, Frank Fredericks and Donovan Bailey. Interview subject Mitchell said, “It’s our nature as sprinters to be a little cocky, self-centered and to jaw-flap some. It’s all just part of the game.”



**ISSUE 700, MARCH 2003.** Regina Jacobs made the cover for her historic first women’s sub-4:00 indoor 1500. Sadly, she would later become symbolic of what went so wrong with the sport in the new millennium. Jacobs wasn’t the only 30-something burning it up; vets Gail Devers and Stacy Dragila were in American Record form too. In a scoop, we broke the news of Gabe Jennings’ impending walkabout to Brazil.

IT HAS BEEN MY PLEASURE to have worked on no fewer than 537 of our 700 issues (my first was January of ‘70), but Publisher Ed Fox and Associate Editor Jon Hendershott have been around for even a few more.

You can expect the super-landmark 1000th issue to come out in ‘28, perhaps beamed direct to the chip in your brain. I’m planning on reading (and writing?) it; hope you are too!