YOU MIGHT BE A hardcore track & field fan if your family tree... oh, wait, I pulled up the wrong file of one-liners.

Seriously, I was musing the other day about how you and I look at the world differently from most people. We indeed belong to a small subset of society. Heck, you might be a hardcore track & field fan if your family tree includes more like you. Particularly going forwards, not backwards, because our sport needs more of you.

So, dear obsessed reader, what have I missed here? All contributions welcome.

You might be a hardcore track & field fan if...

- you're supposed to get up at 6:00, but instead your first thought is the classic pole vault barrier of 19-8¼...
- if you know there's probably more validity to Wilt Chamberlain's claims of sexual prowess than there is to his never-happened superstar track credentials...
- if every time you hear the word “grueling” you pair it with “decathlon”...
- if every time you hear “grueling” and “decathlon” paired you groan because you know the 10-eventer isn't really that way...
- if you think that knowing what the 10 decathlon events are and in what order they come is common knowledge, not trivia...
- if watching the Super Bowl produces at least two groans because the announcers have ascribed world-class speed/jumping ability to somebody who has no such credentials...
- if you've ever hitchhiked more than 100 miles to see a meet...
- if you're willing to share a room with a complete stranger because accommodations for a meet are hard to find...
- if you've ever paid a scalper for a track ticket...
- if you've sat through some of the worst TV productions in history because that's your only option for seeing running, jumping & throwing...
- if you've blown off your significant other's (fill in momentous occasion here) because, well, that meet just seemed more important...
- if every time you look at the 8-foot ceiling in a standard American household and think, “How the heck did Javier Sotomayor ever jump that high?”...
- if the timepiece on your wrist has a stopwatch function you actually use...
- if, given the choice, you’d throw away your shoebox full of vintage baseball cards before you’d chuck your collection of back issues of *T&FN*, no matter how musty they’re starting to get...
- if your closet has more track-related tee/polo shirts than it does grown-up clothing...
- if your first reaction to the word “hammer” doesn’t include nails...
- if your personalized license plate has a track & field theme...

No, wait, I did pull up the right file! You *really* might be a hardcore track & field fan if your family tree includes more like you. Particularly going forwards, not backwards, because our sport needs more of you.

So, dear obsessed reader, what have I missed here? All contributions welcome.