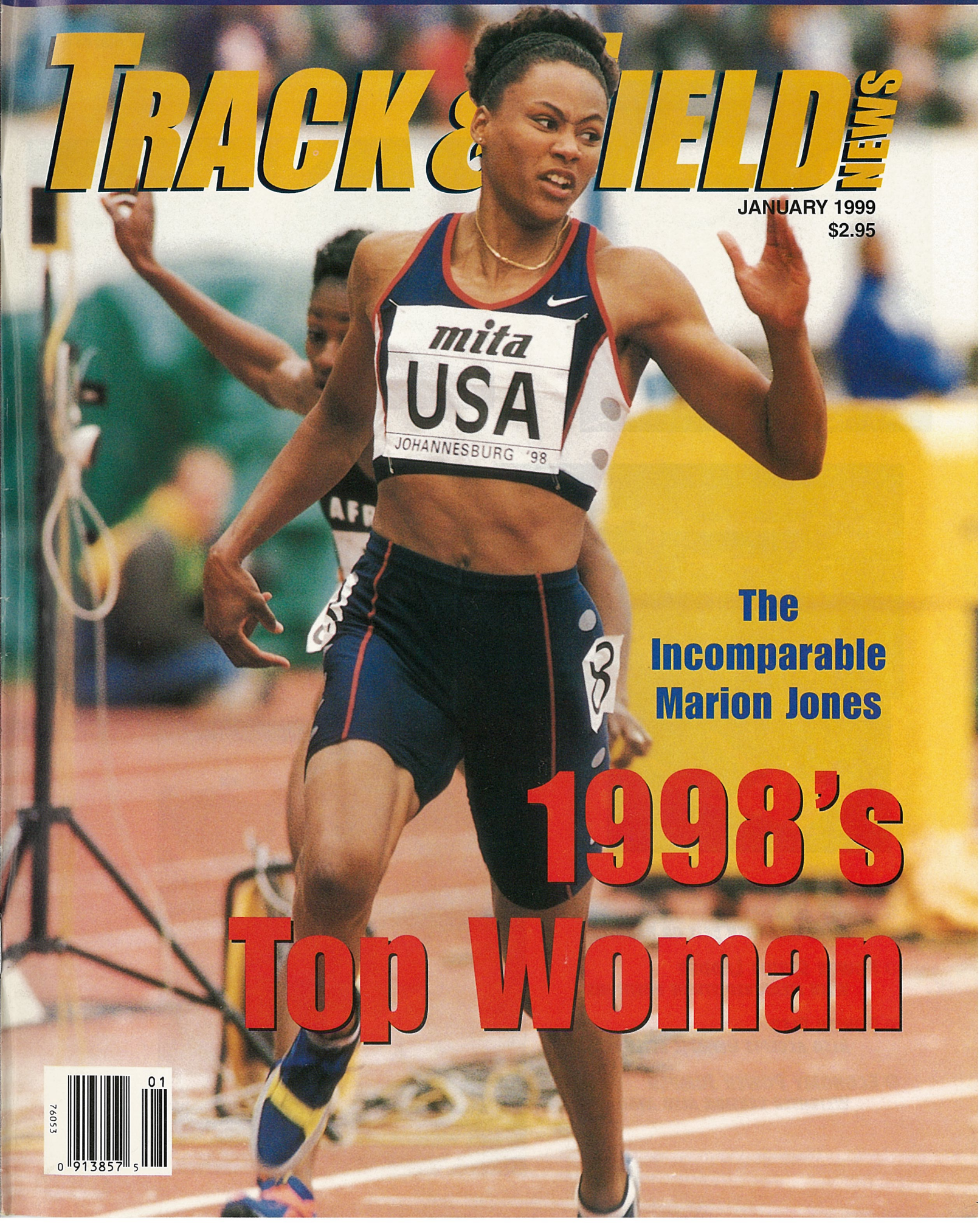
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TRACK & FIELD NEWS

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The Incomparable Marion Jones

1998's Top Woman

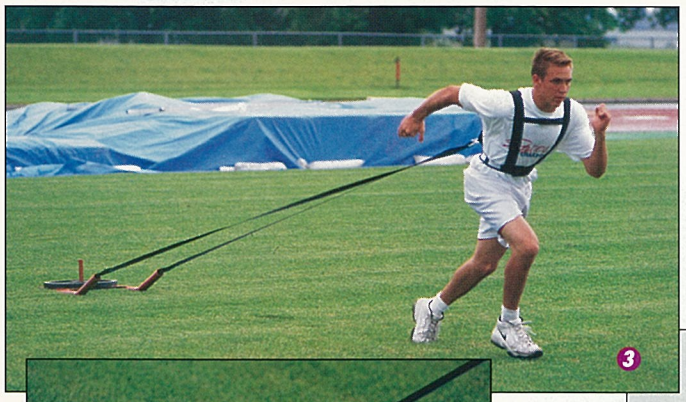
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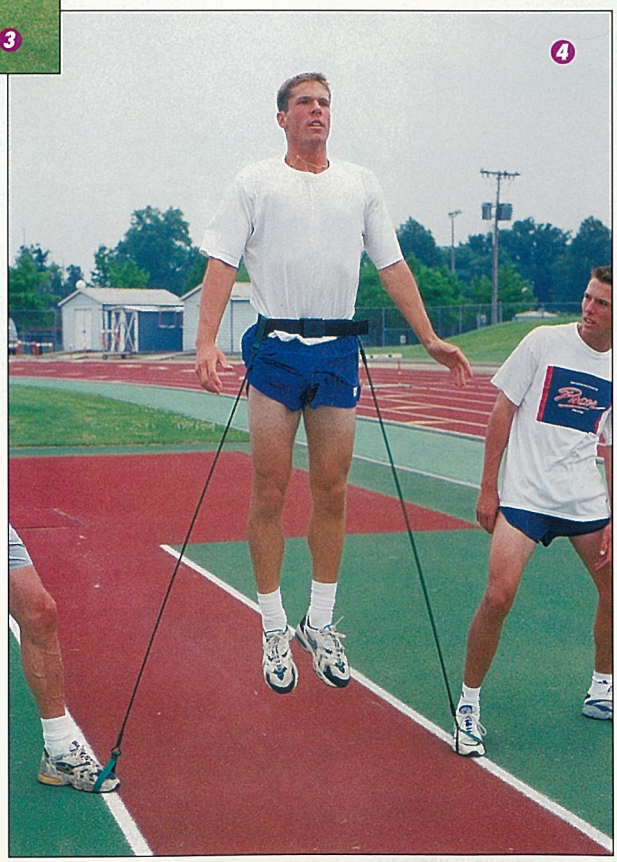












1 POWER HARNESS
AVAILABLE WITH BELT OR HARNESS

2 POWER STRIDE LADDER
WITH MEASURED STRIDE POSITIONS

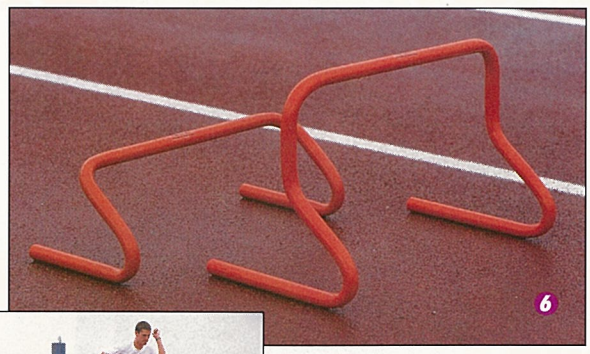
3 POWER SLED
ALSO ACCEPTS OLYMPIC STYLE PLATES

4 ECONOMY POWER JUMPER
WEIGHTED VERSION ALSO AVAILABLE

AGILITY AND ENDURANCE



5



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5 PLYOMETRIC BOXES
STABLE, STACKING DESIGN

6 STEP HURDLES
AVAILABLE IN TWO HEIGHTS

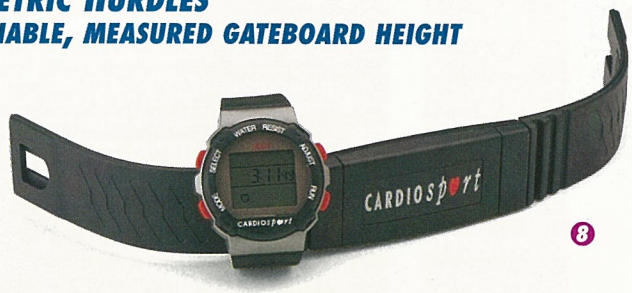
7 MEDICINE BALLS
HIGHLY DURABLE IN MULTIPLE WEIGHTS

8 PULSE MONITORS
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9 PLYOMETRIC HURDLES
VARIABLE, MEASURED GATEBOARD HEIGHT

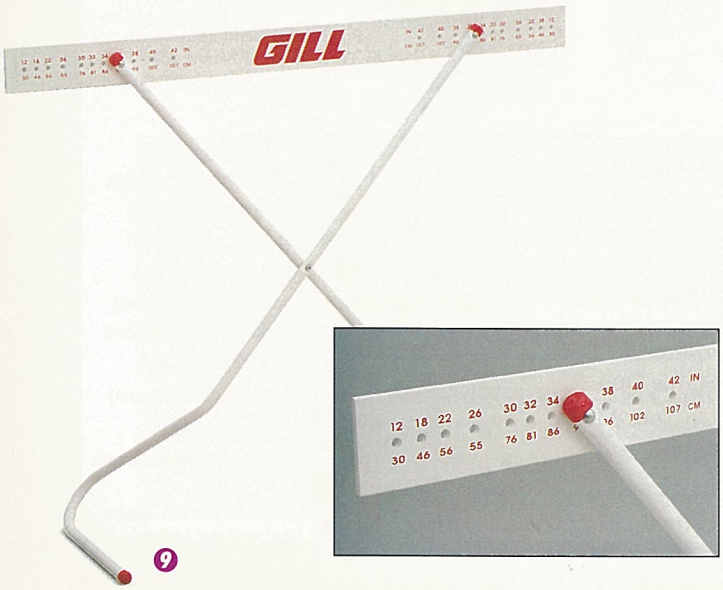


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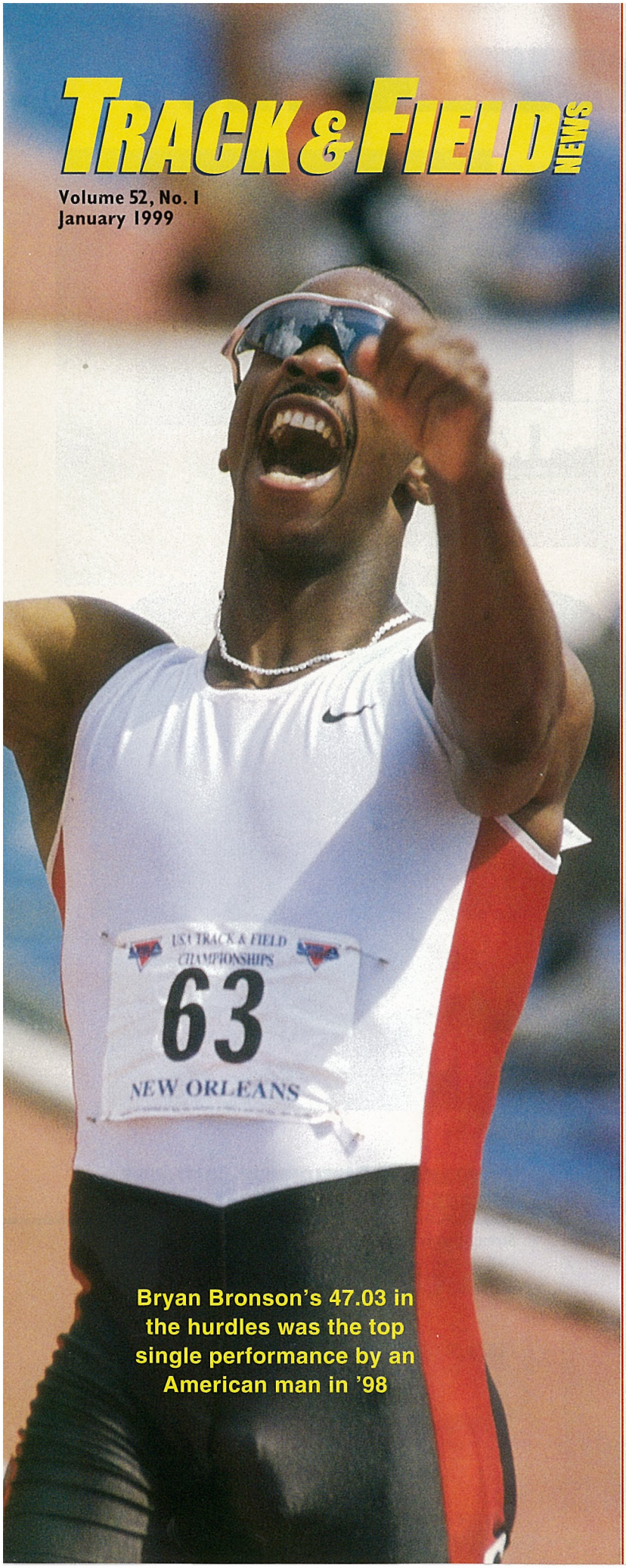
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Volume 52, No. 1
January 1999



Bryan Bronson's 47.03 in the hurdles was the top single performance by an American man in '98

ALLSPORT/GRAY MORTIMORE

1998 Men's World Rankings

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200: Boldon 14
400: Johnson 15
800: Kimutai 15
1500: El Guerrouj 16
Steeple: Barmasai 17
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5000: Gebrselassie 19
10,000: Gebrselassie 19
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400H: Bronson 20
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HJ: Sotomayor 22
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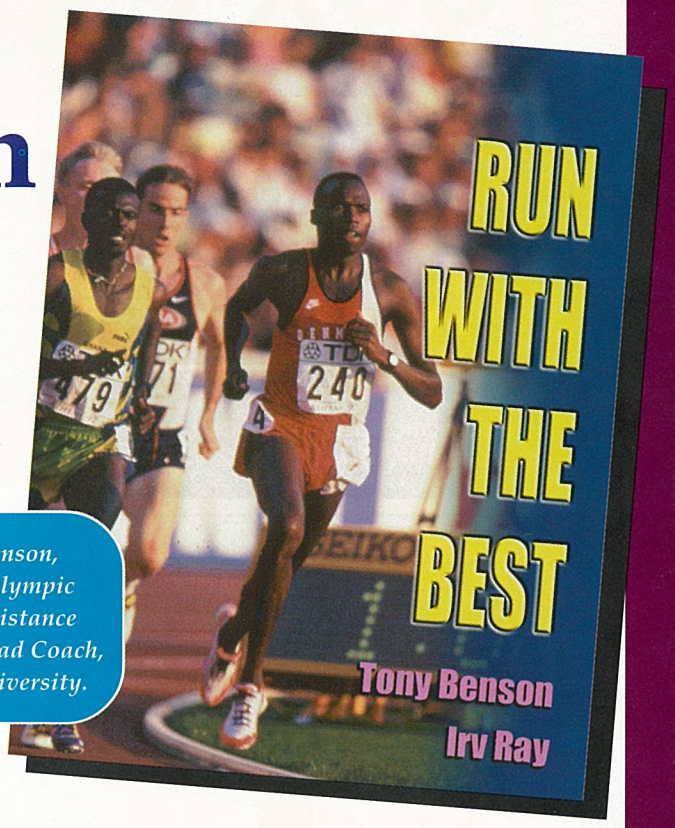
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1998's Top 10 Men

Voting by our 38-member international panel was scored 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

Geb Edges El Guerrouj

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	%
1. Haile Gebrselassie	24	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	364	95.8%
2. Hicham El Guerrouj	14	23	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	355	93.4%
3. John Godina	—	2	18	9	6	1	1	1	—	—	273	71.8%
4. Bryan Bronson	—	—	11	17	6	4	—	—	—	—	263	69.2%
5. Jonathan Edwards	—	—	3	6	13	4	5	5	—	—	199	52.4%
6. Michael Johnson	—	—	1	1	5	9	8	3	5	1	142	37.4%
7. Ato Boldon	—	—	2	1	4	5	4	10	6	3	133	35.0%
8. Iván Pedroso	—	1	—	3	3	5	4	4	7	4	119	31.3%
9. Maurice Greene	—	—	—	1	—	2	8	4	8	3	80	21.1%
10. Tibor Gécsek	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	3	6	44	11.6%

11. Steve Backley 39; 12. Bernard Barmasai 30; 13. Maksim Tarasov 13; 14. Mark Crear 10; 15. Japheth Kimutai 9; 16. Ronaldo da Costa 8; 17. Paul Tergat 5; 18. tie, Virgilijus Alekna & Ondoro Osoro 1; 18. Javier Sotomayor 1; 18. Dan O'Brien 1.

1

HAILE GEBRSELASSIE



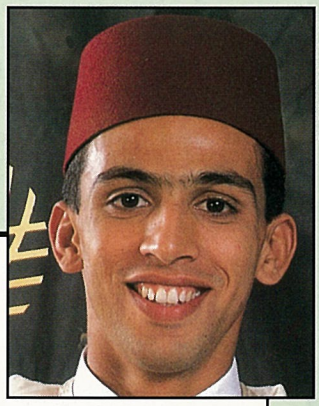
MARK SHEARMAN/THE SPORTING IMAGE

Setting World Records in two different events (12:39.36 in the 5000, 26:22.75 in the 10,000) was the key in the Ethiopian dynamo's edging of El Guerrouj for Athlete Of The Year honors. He also topped the Rankings in the 3000.

Last year's runner-up, Gebrselassie was previously the AOY in '95.

2

HICHAM EL GUERROUJ



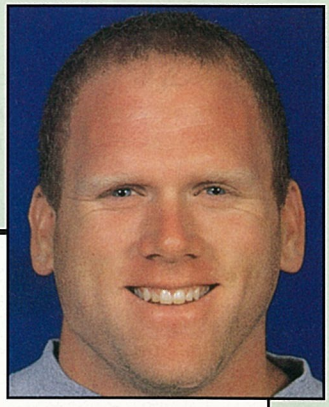
ALLSPORT/JOHN GIGHIGI

So close was the voting for AOY that El Guerrouj had a higher percentage rating in the runner-up position than did half the winners in the last decade.

The Moroccan marvel, No. 4 last year, claimed the WR in the 1500 (3:26.00) and moved to No. 2 ever in both the mile (3:44.60) and 2000 (4:48.36).

3

JOHN GODINA



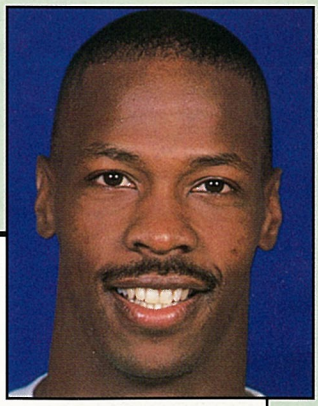
VICTOR SAILER/PHOTO RUN

Field eventers in general—and throwers in particular—often have a tough time scoring well here because they're usually limited to competing in a single event.

Not American AOY Godina, who not only parlayed an undefeated season to No. 1 in the shot, but was also good enough with the disc to earn a No. 3 position there.

4

BRYAN BRONSON

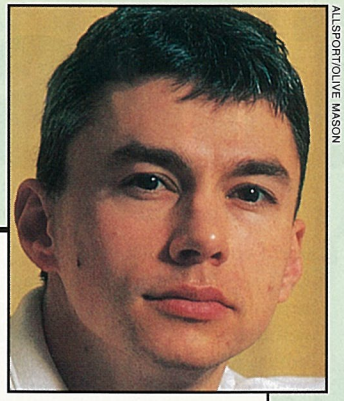


VICTOR SAILER/PHOTO RUN

Bronson battled Godina right down to the wire in the choosing of the year's top American. It's his first appearance in the Top 10.

The sole blotch on his yearly record, a loss in the GP Final, was probably the deciding factor here, and also cost him a share of the IAAF's million-dollar jackpot.

5


ALLSPORT/OLIVE MASON

JONATHAN EDWARDS

Triple jump leader Edwards rejoined the 59-foot and 18m clubs, an elite group he pioneered in '95, when he was runner-up in the AOY balloting.

His topper, 59-1 1/4/18.01, rates as history's No. 4 performance, and for good measure he threw in No. =6 as well, 59-1/4/17.99. He lost only 3 times in his 21 meets.

6

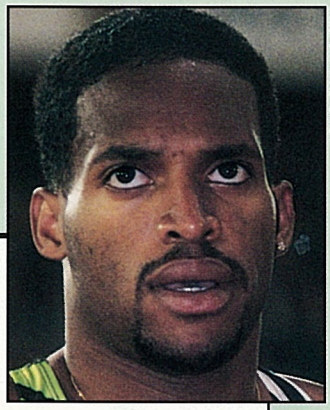

ALLSPORT/JOHN GICHIGI

MICHAEL JOHNSON

Last year was rare in that MJ was *not* among the Top 10. But with his post-Olympic blues behind him, Johnson roared back in '98 to once again dominate the 400 and claim his seventh Top 10 spot.

He blasted through the 44-second barrier three times (nobody else did it even once), topped by the No. 9 performance ever, 43.68.

7

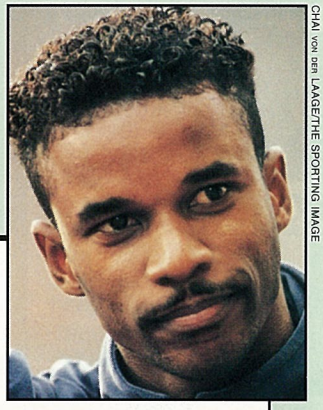

ALLSPORT/VANDYSTADT

ATO BOLDON

At least as far as 1998 went, Boldon was the World's Fastest Human, topping the lists in both the 100 (9.86) and 200 (19.88). Not since Carl Lewis in '87 had anyone turned that trick.

The Trinidadian terror ranked as No. 2 in the century and used an undefeated season in the 200 to claim a No. 1 there.

8

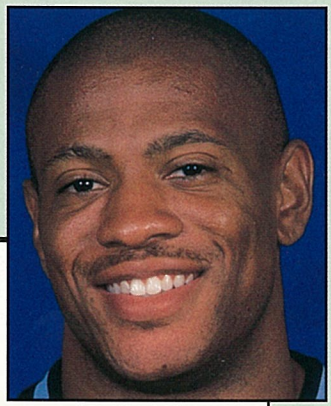

CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

IVÁN PEDROSO

Pedroso came about as close as you can to having an undefeated season in the long jump. The winner of 14 out of 15 meets, his only setback came when he lost on a better-second-jump decision.

In 11 of his 15 meets the Cuban star surpassed the 27-foot barrier. He drops three spots from his No. 5 rating a year ago.

9


BRIAN J. MYERS/PHOTO RUN

MAURICE GREENE

A recordbreaking season over 60m indoors led to much talk about a new 100 standard outdoors, and while that didn't eventuate, Greene nonetheless dominated the century and also ran well enough in the 200 to rate No. 3 there.

His fastest times of the year ended up wind-aided: 9.79w, 9.84w, 19.88w.

10


CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

TIBOR GÉCSEK

The year's top hammer thrower started the year slowly, suffering a lot of losses, but the Hungarian star came on strongly when it really counted, winning all the big meets at the end of the year.

He also threw progressively farther, capping his season with a move to No. 6 on the all-time list when he whirled 274-6/83.68.

Godina Tops U.S.

The thrower supreme broke up a long string of runners and jumpers as America's No. 1

by Kirk Reynolds

Looking at a dizzying string of 1st-place finishes in his undefeated season in the shot, John Godina is struck by a realization. "I've never done that before in any year," says the '98 U.S. Athlete Of The Year. C'mon, John. College? High school? You must have had an unblemished season at some point—especially competing in two events.

Godina leans back in the top row of UCLA's Drake Stadium on a beautiful, warm November afternoon and recollects. "In high school my junior year I lost. My senior year, I won the Golden West but lost at Keebler in the discus. I lost a lot in the shot. When you're in high school, you screw a lot of stuff up! This year was a good, fun year."

Was it ever. In two events, as he became the first since Randy Matson in '67 to lead the world lists in both the shot (71-5½) and discus (229-4).

The campaign boasted 17 shot competitions—17 straight wins—with an impressive average of 70-6, topped off by a win in the Grand Prix Final. He was clearly the iron ball's No. 1.

In the discus, he competed 12 times with an average mark of 216-2 and ended up rated No. 3 for the best combo ranking since Parry O'Brien went 2-1 back in '57 (see p. 25).

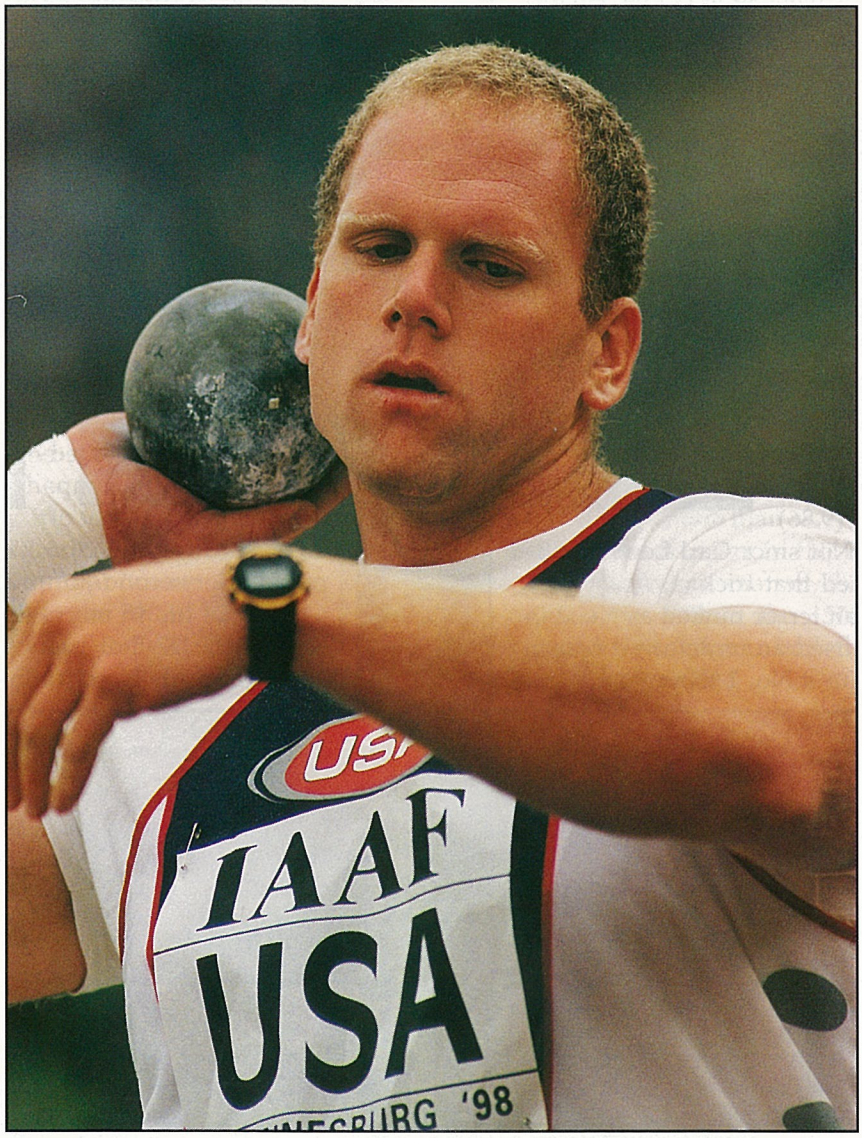
He also became the first since O'Brien did it in '55 to win both the titles at the national championships.

The runner-up to hurdler Allen Johnson as last year's U.S. AOY, this year Godina turned back the strong bid of another barrier specialist, Bryan Bronson, to move to the top. It's a rare honor for a thrower, the top position typically going to runners and leapers.

Godina is grateful for the honor, but sees no surprise in a thrower's occupying the top spot. And he's thinking about a higher standing in the world voting than just the No. 3 he picked off this year.

"I see myself competing against everybody, not just against the throwers," he says. "If I go out and throw 68-feet and win every meet, well that's all right. But where does that put me against El Guerrouj, Bubka, Michael Johnson, and all those people? That doesn't put me anywhere. You have to go out and win every meet and throw over 70-feet and maybe hit a 74- or 75-footer here and there. That'll put you in the El Guerrouj category. That's another reason I throw discus.

"If you throw 75-feet in the shot and 240 in the discus, I don't care if someone breaks the World Record in the mile by 3 seconds; I don't think that's as good."



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

Merely terrific in the discus in '98, Godina was truly superb in the shot, going undefeated on his way to becoming the U.S. Athlete Of The Year.

Here on campus, the UCLA throwers are practicing, and the school's marching band is preparing for the next ball game on the far field. Medicine balls fly left and right. Trombones glissade. Weights clang.

But Godina is merely a visitor this autumn day, on his annual fall break from the rigors of throwing. In LA for a mere five days, Godina is busy. Bruin teammate Mark Parlin is getting married over the weekend, and Godina is a groomsman.

Plus he's beginning the tedious process of looking for and buying his first house. From his World Cup win until December, Godina is relaxing back home in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

"It's an escape from LA," says the '95 UCLA grad. "I don't know if it's LA or the season that causes me to get so focused and intense. I like to go home where the only important thing is to go in and do a workout or two; a day of running and lifting, and then just hang out at night and talk to my friends."

In December he will restart throwing drills with longtime mentor Art Venegas, the UCLA guru who guided Godina to NCAA titles in the shot ('95) and discus ('94, '95), and who oversees his throwing today.

"As I've gotten older, he's started to trust me a little more," chuckles Godina, now 26. "He makes fun of himself sometimes. He'll say I'll be 40

years old and he'll still be telling me to take my rain shoes to the track."

Godina still relishes the stimulating atmosphere of the college environment, but he's beginning to sound like a mature veteran. "Maybe it's pitiful and sad," he jokes, "but I still like to hang out with the young kids because they sure do enjoy themselves. They know how to have fun, and [with me] being forced to deal with paying bills and trying to conquer the world, it's refreshing to get a lighthearted point of view."

That view will drive Godina in '99. Two world titles and an Olympic silver medal—and now an undefeated season—in the shot have established him as a serious competitor. Too serious, perhaps.

"When I threw over 70-feet at the World Championships [in '95], I got all excited and had a good old time and started screaming and yelling," he explains. "A competitor of mine said he'd thrown over 70 more times than he could count, and he felt insulted that I got excited about it. Well, I think it's time to bring that back and enjoy myself and be excited and have a good time. It's more me not allowing myself to have a big throw than it is me not being able to. I'm working so hard at doing it that I'm not letting myself do it.

"My big goal this year is to really loosen up and let things go," he says. "Last year I was kind of an uptight thrower, and that's not the way to get the really big throw. Bob Beamon didn't look uptight when he set his two-foot World Record. I never had that this year. When it happens, it's just going to be great. Especially the discus. In the first half of the season, I had some good marks in the discus obviously from being relaxed and loose. And in the shot I was having really good marks because I was fairly loose, and then I had the injury problems."

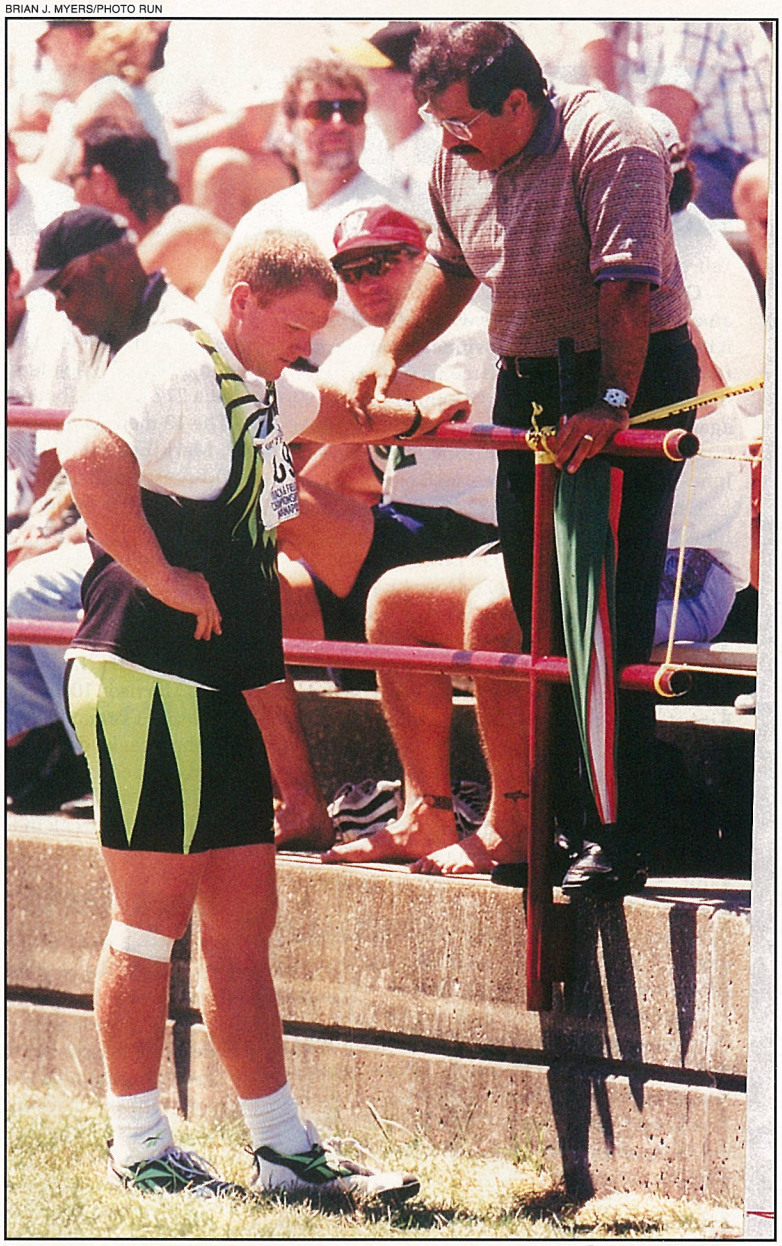
In early July Godina began to suffer elbow and shoulder problems and lost form. Rehab and rest this fall have taken care of his ailments, and have also allowed him the time to ponder future seasons from near the midpoint of his throwing career.

"I'm done making these goals of 'I have to get the World Record now,' 'I have to get this,' 'I have to throw this far'. Now I just want to do what I'm capable of. Then I'll be comfortable with calling it quits and retiring. But I don't know if I'm going to be able to do that for the next 15 years, you know? Art pointed out that it's very possible at this point in my career I now have more time left in track than I've actually been in track."

After living and training in LA for eight years, Godina predicts he'll continue throwing twice that long, and he speaks in terms of "the next three or four Olympics." So he is settling down; he's never lived in one place this long in his life. What kind of house is an Athlete Of The Year looking to buy?

"I want a normal 3-bedroom, 2-bath house," Godina says. "With a garage and a nice yard. Not too old. I can fix up whatever. Other than wallboard, I can fix anything as far as the facade goes. I'm no Bob Vila or anything! But I know I can do the basic stuff."

BRIAN J. MYERS/PHOTO RUN



Whenever/wherever/whatever Godina is throwing, UCLA tech wizard Venegas is never far from the action.

And, no, there will be no backyard addition of a concrete circle, with a sector out to the back fence: "I've got enough rings going on in my life. I don't think I need one right behind my house. I don't want to deal with that ring in my backyard in the middle of the night."

Other than squeezing into tuxedos and house-hunting, Godina is dealing with life quite nicely. "I love what I'm doing," he maintains. "I love the sport in general. There are specific problems with it, but I wouldn't rather be doing anything else. As much as I moan about my shortcomings and the things I screw up, I know I'm doing a good job.

"Almost every interview always comes right after you're done, and all you can think about is, 'Doh! I'm an idiot!' I'm not a grumpy, mean guy! It's kind of an intense at-the-moment desire to do what I should be doing."

Godina glances down the stadium to the shot ring and discus ring inside the track below, and reflects on last season: "The first half was just ripping fun, and the second half was trying but I kept my nose to the grindstone and it came out real nice." □

U.S. Men's Voting: Godina Edges Bronson

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	%
1. John Godina	22	13	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	359	94.5%
2. Bryan Bronson	13	24	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	354	93.2%
3. Michael Johnson	2	1	24	4	4	3	—	—	—	—	288	75.8%
4. Maurice Greene	1	—	7	21	4	3	1	—	—	—	256	67.4%
5. Jeff Hartwig	—	—	4	6	10	10	6	2	—	—	214	56.3%
6. Mark Crear	—	—	—	4	14	5	7	6	1	—	185	48.7%
7. Dan O'Brien	—	—	—	1	3	7	8	4	3	4	114	30.0%
8. Charles Austin	—	—	1	—	1	5	5	7	10	2	102	26.8%
9. Allen Johnson	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	16	7	1	99	26.1%
10. Bob Kennedy	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	5	6	29	7.6%

11. Erick Walder 27; 12. LaMark Carter 25; 13. Mark Everett 21; 14. Lance Deal 9; 15. Tom Pukstys 6; 16. Chris Huffins 2.

1998 World Rankings

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OUR ATHLETES OF THE YEAR were among the few performers who did well when it came to being a repeat winner in our World Rankings (the 52nd on the men's side, 43rd for the women). Only 16 of 42 winners from '97 again showed up in the top spot, but Haile Gebrselassie did it three times and Marion Jones twice.

On the men's side, 9 of 22 repeated: Michael Johnson 400, Hicham El Guerrouj 1500, Gebrselassie 3K/5K/10K, Bryan Bronson 400H, Javier Sotomayor HJ, Iván Pedroso LJ, John Godina SP.

The longest active winning streak, 6, now belongs to Johnson. Two major streaks were ended, Sergey Bubka at 5 in the vault, Wilson Kipketer at 4 in the 800. Geb's streak in the 10K is now at 4.

Women were about as successful as the men at defending, only 7 of 20 doing so: Jones in the 100 and 200, Gabriela Szabo in the 3000, Anna Rita Sidoti in the walk, Emma George in the vault, Sarka Kaspárková in the triple jump, Mihaela Melinte in the hammer.

George and Melinte now share the longest streak, 3. The biggest streak to end was that of Astrid Kumbernuss in the shot, at 3.

Most defenders fared well, even if not at the top spot. Only one men's leader, Sergey Bubka in the vault, failed to rank at all. On the women's side, there were 5 defenders who failed to rank: Ana Quirot (800), Sally Barsosio (10K), Ludmila Engquist (100H), Inga Babakova (HJ) and Niki Xanthou (LJ).

U.S. Defenders Better

American athletes were very good at repeating their U.S. leaderships, being successful at a 22/42 ratio, better than 50%

The 12 men: Maurice Greene 100, Johnson 400, Mark Everett 800, Bob Kennedy 3000 & 5000, Bronson 400H, Curt Clausen 20W, Charles Austin HJ, Erick Walder LJ, Godina SP & DT, Tom Pukstys JT.

Johnson and Kennedy (both events) are now at 6 in the winning-streak department, with Pukstys at 4 and Austin at 3.

The 10 women: Jones 100 & 200, Jearl Miles-Clark 400 & 800, Regina Jacobs 3000 & 5000, Melissa Morrison 100H, Kim Batten 400H, Stacy Dragila PV, Connie Price-Smith SP.

In the streaks department, Price-Smith increased her record total to 9, Batten to 5 and Miles-Clark to 4 in the 400. Jackie Joyner-Kersee's record streak in the long jump ended at 8.

Jones Leads Surprises

It's rare—but not unheard of—for an athlete to earn a No. 1 world ranking without previously ever having been ranked. Marion Jones did it twice last year (100/200) and now she has done it again, in the long jump.

Three others moved into a No. 1 from no previous rank in that event: Japheth Kimutai in the men's 800, Sonia O'Sullivan in the 10K and Glory Alozie in the 100H. Neither Kimutai nor Alozie had ever previously ranked in any event.

Jones Gets A Triple

Just scoring in three events in one year is rare enough, but leading three different events is very rare indeed. Marion Jones is a rare athlete, however, and topped the 100, 200 and long jump in '98. (Since we don't accord full ranking status to the 3000, Gebrselassie's 3/5/10 leadership isn't counted as a triple.)

Sonia O'Sullivan also scored in three events, going 6/4/1 in the 1500/5000/10,000.

In addition to Jones and O'Sullivan, 8 women earned doubles:

100/200—Inger Miller (3/6), Zhanna Pintusevich (5/3), Irina Privalova (9/5).

200/400—Fali Ogunkoya (2/1).

400/800—Jearl Miles-Clark (6/2).

1500/5000—Gabriela Szabo (2/2), Gete Wami (7/3).

5K/10K—Paula Radcliffe (5/3).

The 9 men's doublers:

100/200—Maurice Greene (1/3), Ato Boldon (2/1), Frank Fredericks (3/2), Francis Obikwelu (9/9).

200/400—Tyree Washington (5/4).

5000/10,000—Gebrselassie (1/1), Paul Tergat 6/2).

20W/50W—Robert Korzeniowski (5/1).

SP/DT—John Godina (1/3).

Two major doubling strings came to an end in '98. Merlene Ottey's record string in the 100 and 200 came to an end at 17 straight years, while Michael Johnson's 200/400 streak stopped at 8.

Fredericks takes over the current leadership on the men's side, his sprint sequence now reaching 8 straight years. The best women's streak is 3, by Miller and Szabo.

All-Time Scoring Leaders

Three athletes took over the all-time lead in event scoring: Patrick Sang (steeple), Yelena Nikolayeva (10W) and Emma George (PV), and another 7 increased their hold on the top spot: Michael Johnson (400), Noureddine Morceli (1500) and Javier Sotomayor (HJ) among the men; Merlene Ottey (100), Heike Drechsler (LJ), Mihaela Melinte (HT) and Jackie Joyner-Kersee (hept) among the women.

And now, the 1998 Rankings:

TOP MEN'S PERFORMANCE

El Guerrouj's 1500 WR

Hicham El Guerrouj won the battle, but Haile Gebrselassie won the war. Our panel gave a solid vote of confidence to the Moroccan's 1500 World Record as the leading performance of the year, but the Ethiopian's pair of all-time bests, which took spots 2 and 3, were obviously enough to sway the vote when it came to selecting the Athlete Of The Year.

Field eventers were almost completely ignored, only Jonathan Edwards' sterling triple jumping getting any notice (and some partial credit for decathlete Dan O'Brien).

The 15 vote-getting performances (with No. 1 votes in parentheses):

1. Hicham El Guerrouj's 3:26.00 WR, 146 (20); 2. Haile Gebrselassie's 26:22.75 WR, 110 (4); 3. Gebrselassie's 12:39.36 WR, 86 (4); 4. Ronaldo da Costa's 2:06:05 WR, 56 (4); 5. El Guerrouj's 3:26.45, 30; 6. Bryan Bronson's 47.03, 18; 7. El Guerrouj's 3:44.60, 10; 8. Ato Boldon's 9.86 in Athens, 8; 9. Jonathan Edwards' 59-1¼, 5; 10. Ato Boldon's 9.86 in Walnut, 3; 11. tie, Michael Johnson's 43.76, Daniel Komen's 7:58.91 2M & Dan O'Brien's 8755, 2; 14. tie, Johnson's 43.68 & Maurice Greene's 9.79w, 1.

TOP WOMEN'S PERFORMANCE

Loroupe's Marathon

Recognizing what an integral part of the sport pacemaking has become, our voters had no problem with according Tegla Loroupe's all-time best in the marathon with POY status, despite a general hue and cry that she had unacceptable pacing help.

Then it's the Marion Jones show, with the AOY getting credit for no fewer than 10 different performances (including 5 of the first 7). No other performer has ever had that kind of showing.

A record 29 performances got votes (1sts are in parentheses):

1. Tegla Loroupe's 2:20:47 WR, 67 (9); 2. Marion Jones's 21.62(A) World Cup win, 52 (4); 3. Jones's 10.71 at Chengdu, 34 (5); 4. Jones's 10.65(A) World Cup win, 33 (3); 5. Gabriela Szabo's 14:31.48, 30 (1); 6. Jones's 10.72 at Monaco, 29 (1); 7. Jones's 10.72 at Lausanne, 21; 8. tie, Kim Batten's 52.74 (1) & Emma George's 15-¾ WR, 14; 10. Vita Pavlysh's 71-2 Euro Champs win, 13; 11. Christine Arron's 10.73 Euro Champs win, 11; 12. Jones's 10.77, 8 (1);

13. tie, Catherina McKiernan's 2:22:23 & Gabriela Szabo's 8:24.31, 7; 15. Jones's 23-11¾ at Pre, 6; 16. tie, Jones's 10.71 at USATF, Jones's 10.80 (1) & Jones's 21.80, 5; 19. tie, Glory Alozie's 12.44 at Brussels, Jones's 23-11¾ at Zürich, Jackie Joyner-Kersee's 6502 & Gabriela Szabo's 3:56.97, 4;

23. Sonia O'Sullivan's 31:29.33 Euro Champs win, 3; 24. Alozie's 12.44 at Monaco, Olga Kuzenkova's 242-1 WR, Maria Mutola's 1:56.11 & Zohra Ouaziz's 14:32.08, 2; 28. tie, Jones's 10.72 USATF win & Angie Vaughn's 12.63, 1.

What Are The Rankings?

The whole purpose of our World Rankings is to establish relative merit for the single season in question. The Rankings are *not* reflective of how the compilers feel athletes would finish in any kind of idealized competition. Ergo, the "best" athlete isn't always No. 1.

A commonly asked question is, "How did the voting go for the World Rankings this year?" Unlike the process for choosing the Athletes Of The Year, *there is no voting*. Our Rankers use a complex process of argumentation to arrive at their decisions, so it's not possible to say that Ato Boldon beat Maurice Greene by a score of 6–3, or whatever.

Under our system, athletes are judged on three weighted criteria. The all-encompassing factors, in order of importance:

•**1. Honors won.** This means scoring high placings (with emphasis on actually winning) in major international competitions.

Unlike Olympic and World Championships years, there was no single meet that was obviously the most important competition of '98 in all events. In those events which were contested, the IAAF's Grand Prix Final was usually treated as paramount, and in many instances, the Goodwill Games took on added import.

It should also be noted that the importance of a meet is relative to who competes in it, not how much stock a given athlete might place in it.

As important as major meets are, we should also note that no competition, not even the Olympics, is the be-all, end-all. We're looking for people who maintain high standards over a whole year.

•**2. Win-loss record.** Simply put, an analysis of how athletes fared in head-to-head competition with their peers. But a win in a major competition might outweigh losses to the same person in a multiple number of minor ones.

•**3. Sequence of marks.** More concisely, performances. How fast you ran or how high or far you jumped or how far you threw something. Typically, the compilers weigh athletes based on the average of their five best meets.

It's very easy for the casual observer (and most athletes and coaches) to place the most consideration on the last factor, when in fact it should be the opposite. In our system it's worth much less than either of the other two categories. And honors alone can outweigh the other two criteria. We reward people who have proven themselves against other people, not against themselves.

Indoor competition plays only a small role, and is not considered at all in shorter running events, where small tracks add a whole new variable to the equation. Road competition counts only in the walks and marathon.

Who Done It?

Our World Ranking Panel—a wide-ranging bunch representing five different nationalities—likes to maintain a low profile, but credit should be given where it is due. Roberto Quercetani and Don Potts are the senior members of the group. They're joined by Garry Hill, Jeff Hollobaugh, Richard Hymans, Dave Johnson, Nejat Kök and Howard Willman.

Shawn Price coordinated the efforts in the U.S. Rankings, and Bob Bowman coordinated the walk-event rankings with assistance from Jack Mortland and Colin Young.

Nothing But The Facts

A quickie guide to the actual Rankings material, which begins on page 14:

The Top 10 in the World are listed for each event, with their height/weight/birthdate. Also given for each is some kind of seasonal record, with seasonal best in bold type. We attempt to list a complete outdoor season (finals only) for the No. 1 person. Correspondingly fewer marks are given for lesser places.

The Top 10 in the U.S. are listed in a separate box, with those who are also in the World Rankings indicated by an asterisk. It is important to note that the U.S. Rankings follow the order of the World where they overlap.

Athletes convicted of 2-year doping offenses (steroids, etc.) are presumed to have been guilty all year and have their entire seasons discounted. Those with minor stimulant offenses lose only the positive-test meet.

The 50-deep '98 lists (World and U.S.) will appear in the February '99 issue.

GET IN WHERE YOU FIT IN

—Too Short, ca. 1993

MAURICE GREENE
60M WORLD RECORD
GOODWILL GAMES

GENTRY BRADLEY
USA NATIONALS

ATO BOLDON
COMMONWEALTH GAMES
GOODWILL GAMES

TISHA WALLER
AMERICAN RECORD INDOOR
USA NATIONALS, IN & OUTDOOR
GOODWILL GAMES

CURTIS PERRY
NCAA OUTDOOR

LARRY WADE
NCAA IN & OUTDOOR

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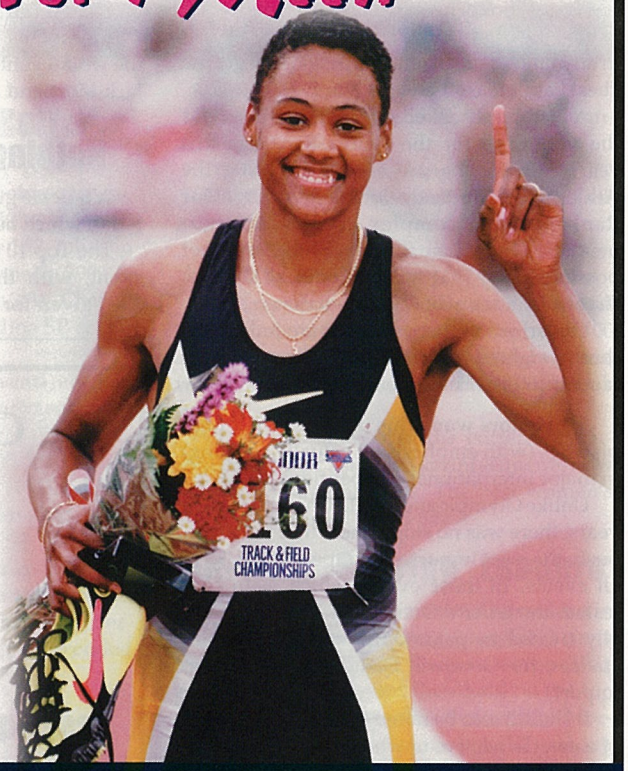
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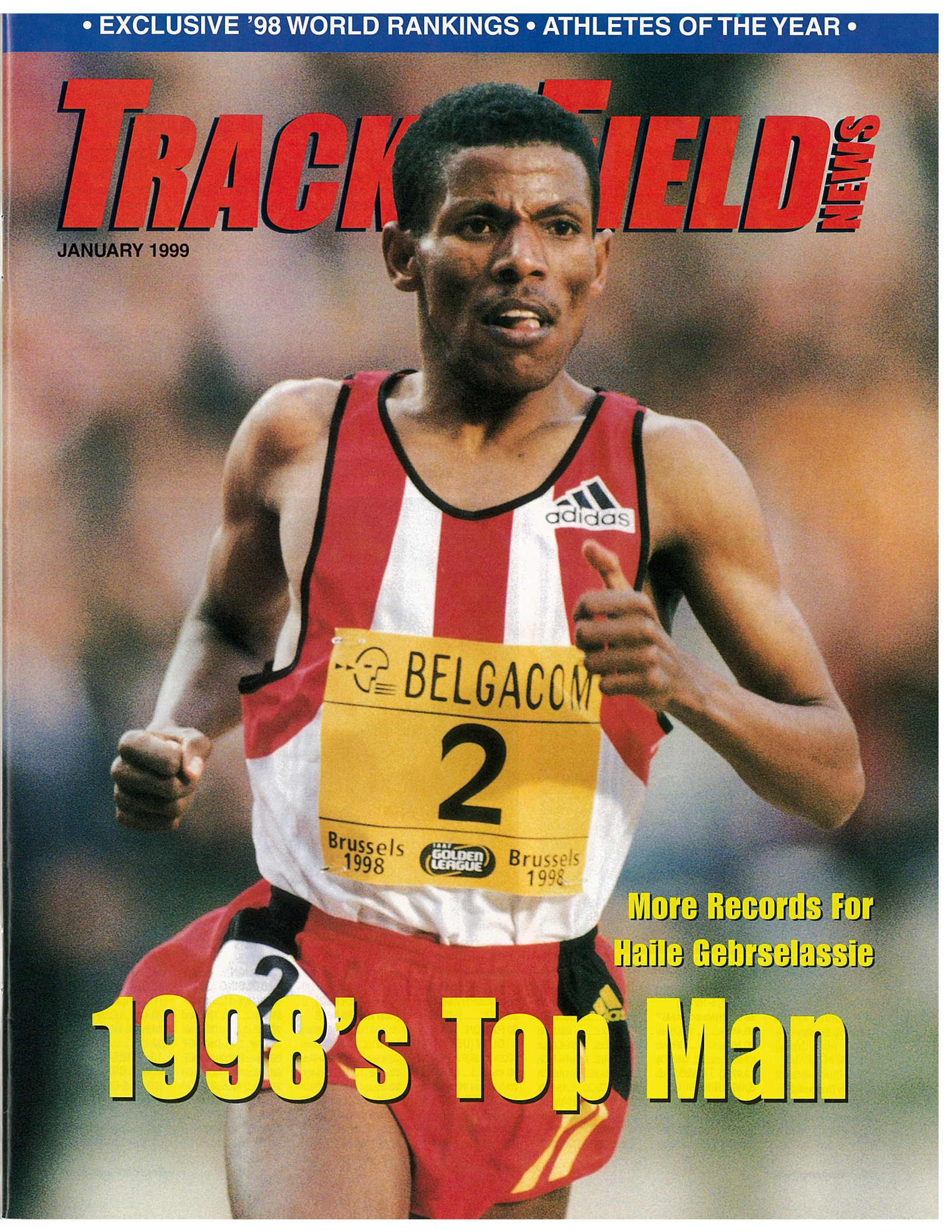
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• EXCLUSIVE '98 WORLD RANKINGS • ATHLETES OF THE YEAR •

TRACK & FIELD NEWS

JANUARY 1999



More Records For Haile Gebrselassie

1998's Top Man

100 METERS

Greene Moves Up...

NUMBER ONE: Greene lost his chance to be on top in '97, despite winning the World title, because he rarely won. He took care of that minor detail nicely in '98, winning 8 of his 12 finals and handily dispatching Boldon 6–3. As for prime rival Boldon, he was the year's fastest (9.86 twice), but he had a problem with a low winning rate, taking only 7 of his 15 finals.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE '85 Linford Christie's name doesn't appear. Two great warriors of the '60s, Harry Jerome and Charlie Greene, drop out of the all-time Top 10 in scoring as Fredericks moves into =7th.

1. MAURICE GREENE (US)
(7/23/74, 5-9/165)
10.06 .. 1)Melbourne GP
9.99 ..... 1)Sydney
9.79w ... 1)Eugene GP
9.84w ..... 1h)USATF
9.96 ..... 1sf) "
dnc-f ..... –) "
9.96 ..... 2)Oslo GP
10.04 ..... 3)Rome GP
9.96 ..... 1)Goodwill
10.39 ..... 8)Paris GP
9.90 .. 1)Stockholm GP
9.92 ... 1)Lausanne GP
9.94 ..... 1)Brussels GP
9.94 ..... 1)Berlin GP
10.22 ..... 2)TOTO
[10.05, 10.08, 10.31]

2. ATO BOLDON (Tri)
(12/30/73, 5-8¾/165)
9.86 ..... 1)Mt. SAC
10.00 .... 1)Port of Spain
9.89w ... 2)Eugene GP
9.86 ..... 1)Athens
10.05 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
9.99 ..... 2)Rome GP
9.96(A) ... 1)Joburg GP
10.11 ..... 1)Osaka GP
10.09w . 1)St.-Denis GP
9.93 ..... 2)Athens
9.95 ..... 1)Oslo GP
10.05 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
9.97 ..... 1)Rome GP
10.00 ..... 1)Nice GP
10.11 ..... 3)Paris GP
10.02 ..... 3)Monaco GP
10.04 ..... 3)Zürich GP
9.97 ..... 2)Afr Ch
10.14 ... 6)Lausanne GP
10.11 ..... 1)GP Final
9.96 ..... 2)Comm G
[9.97, 9.98, 10.04]

4. DONOVAN BAILEY (Can)
(12/16/67, 6-0/181)
10.36 .. 3)Melbourne GP
10.13 ... 2)São Leopoldo
10.19 ..... 1)Rio GP
10.07 ..... 1)Doha GP
10.07 ..... 1)Nuremberg
10.00 ..... 2)Goodwill
10.10 ..... 2)Paris GP
9.96 .. 2)Stockholm GP
9.92 ..... 1)Monaco GP
10.10 .... 4)Lausanne GP
10.08 ..... 3)Brussels GP
9.99 ..... 3)Berlin GP
9.88 ..... 1)Comm G
10.07 ..... 1)TOTO
[9.96, 10.01, 9.89w]

3. FRANK FREDERICKS (Nam)
(10/2/67, 5-10/155)
10.08 ..... 1)Capetown
10.30 ..... 7)Goodwill
10.27 ..... 1)Barcelona
10.02 ..... 1)Paris GP
9.93 ..... 2)Can Ch
9.96 ..... 2)Monaco GP
dnf ..... –)Zürich GP
[10.06, 10.16, 10.18]

5. JON DRUMMOND (US)
(9/9/68, 5-9/160)
10.13 .. 2)Melbourne GP
10.05w ... 3)Eugene GP
9.94 ..... 1h)USATF
dnc-sf ..... –) "
10.25 ..... 4)Goodwill
10.19 ..... 4)Paris GP
10.06 .. 4)Stockholm GP
10.05 ..... 4)Monaco GP
10.00 ... 2)Lausanne GP
10.01 ..... 2)Brussels GP
9.98 ..... 2)Berlin GP
[10.09, 10.10]

6. OBADELE THOMPSON (Bar)
(3/30/76, 5-8/132)
10.17 ..... 2)Osaka GP
10.06w ... 4)Eugene GP
10.11 ..... 2)JJK GP
10.06 .. 5)Stockholm GP
10.11 ..... 6)Monaco GP
10.03 ..... 2)Zürich GP
10.00 ... 3)Lausanne GP
10.14 ..... 5)Brussels GP
10.06 ..... 4)Berlin GP
10.11 ..... 2)GP Final
9.87(A) .. 1)World Cup
10.00 ..... 3)Comm G
[10.08, 10.09, 10.10]

7. SEUN OGUNKOYA (Ngr)
(12/28/77, 5-10/174)
9.96 ..... 1)Zürich GP
9.94 ..... 1)Afr Ch
10.15 ..... 4)GP Final
9.92(A) .. 2)World Cup
[5)Laus, 4)Bruss, 7)Berl]

8. TIM HARDEN (US)
(1/27/74, 5-10/170)
9.88w ..... 1)USATF
10.09 ..... 1)Linz GP
10.12 ..... 3)GP Final
10.03(A) .. 4)World Cup
[5)Oslo, 8)Good, 4h)Zür]

9. FRANCIS OBIKWELU (Ngr)
(11/22/78, 6-4¾/163)
10.06 ..... 1)Lisbon
10.01 ..... 3)Oslo GP
10.08 ..... 4)Zürich GP
10.15 ..... 5)GP Final
[7)Mon, 8)Laus, 8)Bruss]

10. BRIAN LEWIS (US)
(12/5/74, 5-7/159)
10.03 ..... 1sf)USATF
9.98w ..... 2) "
10.07 ..... 4)Oslo GP
10.10 ..... 1)JJK GP
10.06 .. 3)Stockholm GP
[3)Good, 5)Zür, 6)GPF]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Maurice Greene** *
2. **Jon Drummond** *
3. **Tim Harden** *
4. **Brian Lewis** *
5. **Tim Montgomery** [3)US, 5)Rome, 3)Nice]
6. **K. Streete-Thompson** [5h)US, 2B)Laus, 2B)Ber]
7. **Vincent Henderson** [6s)US, 1)Lever, 8)GPF]
8. **Tony McCall** [2)Nice, 3)JJK, 6)Stock]
9. **Jonathan Carter** [4)US, 5)Nice, 7)JJK]
10. **Bernard Williams** [2)Mod, 1)JUCO, 6)US]

200 METERS

... So Does Ato

NUMBER ONE: To say the half-lap event was neglected on the bigtime circuit would be a gross understatement, as meaningful clashes were few and far between. The top three men ran only 13 races among them, and never met.

WORLD LEADER BOLDON (19.88), who scored three major-meet victories, earned a narrow edge over Fredericks and Greene, who were even less exposed. Fredericks is in the top 3 for the ninth straight year. Not in the Rankings for the first time this decade is WR holder Michael Johnson, who confined his efforts to just two domestic races, and thus surrenders No. 3 on the all-time scoring list to Fredericks (who trails only Pietro Mennea and Don Quarrie).

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Maurice Greene** *
2. **Tyree Washington** *
3. **Ramon Clay** *
4. **Jon Drummond** [1)Brussels, 4)TOTO]
5. **Michael Johnson** [1)UTA, 3)Eugene GP]
6. **Allen Johnson** [4)Eug, 2)USA, 5)Good]
7. **Gentry Bradley** [7)Eug, 1)USA, 2)WCp]
8. **Curtis Perry** [1)NC, 3)USA, 4)Good]
9. **Kevin Braunskill** [1)Pat, 4)Brus, 3)TOTO]
10. **Rohsaan Griffin** [2)SAC, 5)Eug, 6)USA]

1. ATO BOLDON (Tri)
(12/30/73, 5-8¾/165)
21.04 ..... 1)Westwood
19.88 ..... 1)Athens
20.23 ..... 1)Oslo GP
20.15 ..... 1)Goodwill

2. FRANK FREDERICKS (Nam)
(10/2/67, 5-10/155)
20.55 .. 1)Melbourne GP
20.44 ..... 1)Sydney
20.35(A) ..... 1)Provo
19.99 ..... 1)Afr Ch
19.97(A) .. 1)World Cup

3. MAURICE GREENE (US)
(7/23/74, 5-9/165)
20.03 ..... 1)Mt. SAC
20.20 .... 1)Port of Spain
19.88w ... 1)Eugene GP
20.91 ..... 4)Vill-d'Ascq

4. SEBASTIÁN KEITEL (Chl)
(2/14/73, 5-8¾/143)
19.94w . 1)São Leopoldo
20.65 ..... 1)Rio GP
20.15 ..... 1)Santiago
20.14w . 1)St.-Denis GP
20.27 ... 1)Bratislava GP
20.63w ..... 2)Budapest
20.08w ..... 1)Madrid
20.66 ..... 2)Vill-d'Ascq
20.16 ..... 1)Ibero-A Ch
20.39 ..... 1)Isr Ch
20.22 ..... 1)Haifa
20.47 ..... 2)Sheffield GP
20.62(A) ... 6)World Cup

5. TYREE WASHINGTON (US)
(8/28/76, 6-0/178)
20.40w ..... 1)Budapest
20.32 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
20.29 ..... 2)Goodwill

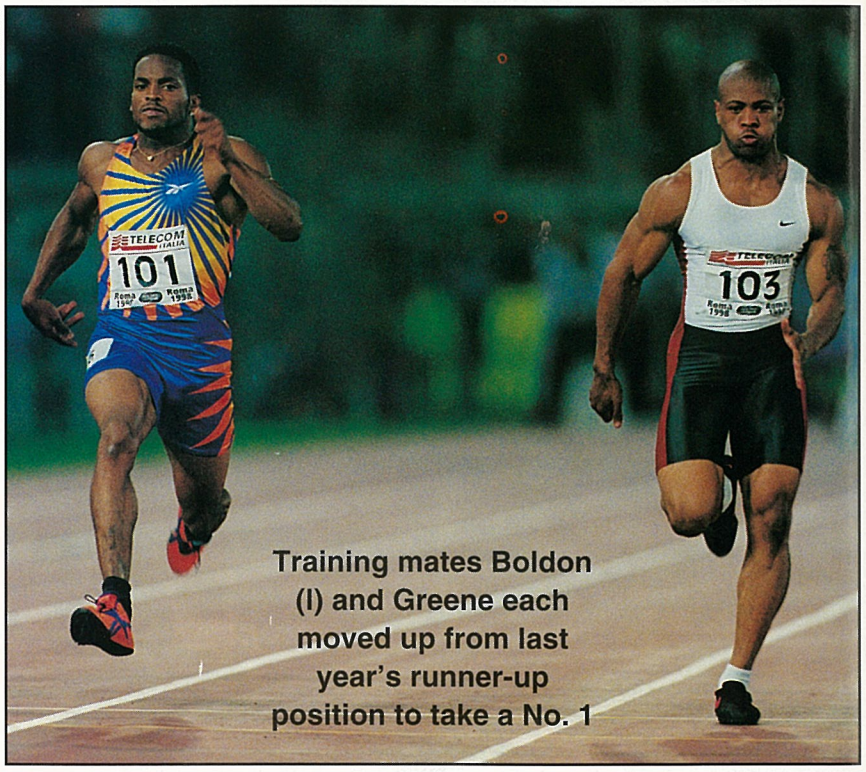
6. RAMON CLAY (US)
(6/29/75, 6-1¼/170)
20.42i ..... 1)USA Ind
20.0(A) .... 1)Pietersburg
20.08(A) . 1)Roodepoort
20.29 ..... 1)Cape Town
20.06 ..... 1)Doha GP
dnf ..... –)St.-Denis GP
[20.68i, 20.74i, 20.89]

7. DOUG WALKER (GB)
(7/28/73, 5-9¾/168)
20.47w ..... 1)Bedford
20.59 ..... 1)Bedford
20.42 ..... 1)Euro Cup
20.4hw ..... 1)Edinburgh
20.35 ..... 1)GB Ch
20.38 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
20.53 ..... 1)Euro Ch
20.69 ..... 8)Comm G
[20.67, 20.74]

8. JULIAN GOLDING (GB)
(2/17/75, 5-11½/150)
20.46i ..... 1)GB Ind
20.61 ..... 1)Chaniá
20.57w . 5)St.-Denis GP
20.65 ... 4)Bratislava GP
20.88 ..... 3)GB Ch
20.63 ..... 4)Sheffield GP
20.72 ..... 3)Euro Ch
21.24 ..... 4)v U.S.
20.18 ..... 1)Comm G
[20.34, 20.39, 20.51]

9. FRANCIS OBIKWELU (Ngr)
(11/22/78, 6-4¾/163)
20.42w ..... 1)Tenerife
20.17 ..... 2)Brussels GP
20.49 ..... 1)TOTO

10. CHRISTIAN MALCOLM (GB)
(6/3/79, 5-7¾/146)
20.32w ..... 1)Bedford
20.44 ..... 1)World Jr
20.29 ..... 2)Comm G
[20.53, 20.56, 20.92]



ALLSPORT/MARK THOMPSON

Training mates Boldon (l) and Greene each moved up from last year's runner-up position to take a No. 1

400 METERS

Record No. 8 For MJ

NUMBER ONE: A loss in his first GP race made it appear as if Johnson's long run atop the heap might be at an end, but he quickly roared back to win 7 straight GP meets and increase his all-time total of No. 1s to 8. That's twice as many as runners-up Lee Evans and Alberto Juantorena.

THE MAN WHO WON the race Johnson lost was Richardson. The Briton won little else, but did come on to take the important GP Final in the American's absence and thus edge countryman Thomas for the runner-up spot.

1. MICHAEL JOHNSON (US)
(9/13/67, 6-1/175)
45.04 ..... 1)Waco
44.58 ..... 3)Oslo GP
44.40 ..... 1)Rome GP
43.76 ..... 1)Goodwill
43.96 ..... 1)Monaco GP
43.68 ..... 1)Zürich GP
44.28 ... 1)Lausanne GP
44.06 ..... 1)Brussels GP
44.62 ..... 1)Berlin GP

2. MARK RICHARDSON (GB)
(7/26/72, 5-10/163)
44.53 ..... 1)Helsinki GP
45.81 ..... 1)Euro Cup
44.37 ..... 1)Oslo GP
44.62 ..... 2)Rome GP
44.62 ..... 2)GB Ch
45.05 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
44.37 ..... 3)Monaco GP
44.48 ..... 4)Zürich GP
45.14 ..... 3)Euro Ch
45.22 ... 4)Lausanne GP
44.88 ..... 1)GPFinal
44.60 ..... 2)Comm G
[45.03, 45.40, 45.41]

3. IWAN THOMAS (GB)
(1/5/74, 6-0/174)
44.50 ..... 2)Oslo GP
44.77 ..... 5)Rome GP
44.50 ..... 1)GB Ch
45.22 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
44.38 ..... 4)Monaco GP
44.54 ..... 5)Zürich GP
44.52 ..... 1)Euro Ch
44.95 ..... 3)Brussels GP
45.13 ..... 1)v US
44.96 ..... 3)GPFinal
45.33(A) ... 1)World Cup
44.52 ..... 1)Comm G
[3)Cape T, 3)Brat, 2)Shef]

4. TYREE WASHINGTON (US)
(8/28/76, 6-0/178)
45.42 ..... 1)Rio GP
44.43 ..... 1)Eugene GP
44.38 ..... 2)USATF
44.74 ..... 5)Oslo GP
44.71 ..... 3)Rome GP
44.43 ..... 2)Goodwill
44.78 .. 1)Stockholm GP
44.29 ..... 2)Monaco GP
44.42 ..... 3)Zürich GP
45.36 ..... 3)Berlin GP
45.47 ..... 4)GPFinal
[2)SAC, 4)Osak, 1)Lucer]

5. JEROME YOUNG (US)
(8/14/76, 5-11/175)
44.19 ..... 1)NCAA II
44.09 ..... 1)USATF
44.93 ... 2)Lausanne GP
44.73 ..... 2)Brussels GP
45.18 ..... 2)Berlin GP
44.96 ..... 2)GPFinal
45.37(A) ... 2)World Cup
[6)Good, 6)Mona, 7)Zür]

6. ANTONIO PETTIGREW (US)
(11/3/67, 6-0/167)
44.49 ..... 1)Osaka GP
44.40 ..... 3)USATF
44.71 ..... 4)Oslo GP
44.78 ..... 3)Goodwill
[8)Mon, 8)Zürich, 5)GPF]

7. ALVIN HARRISON (US)
(1/20/74, 6-2/175)
44.69 ..... 2)Eugene GP
44.61 ..... 4)USATF
44.52 ..... 5)Monaco GP
44.19 ..... 2)Zürich GP
[4)Good, 1)JJK, 6)GPF]

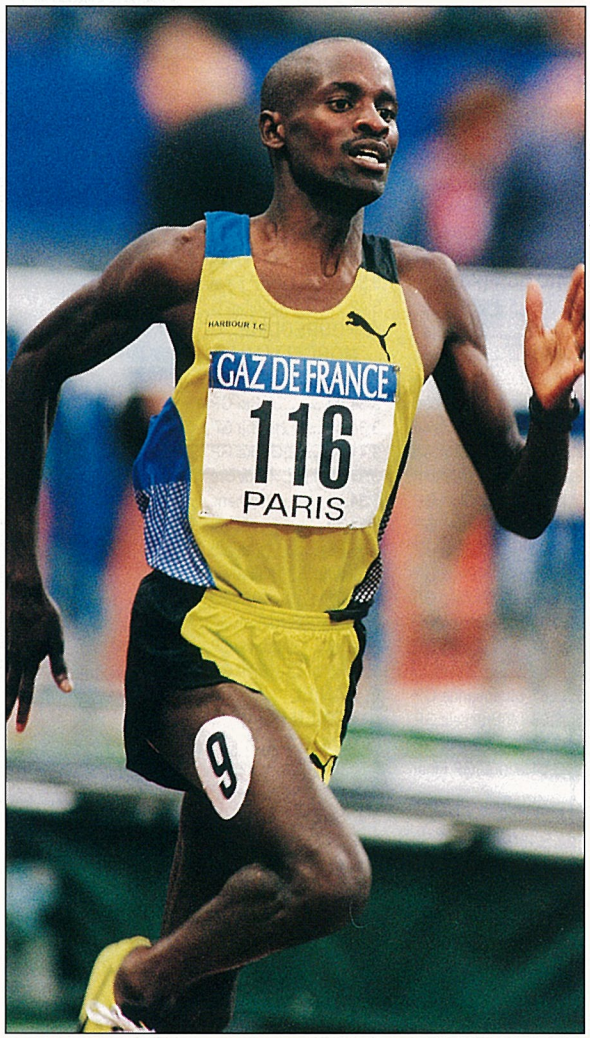
8. SUGATH TILLAKERATNE (SrL)
(7/30/73, 5-7/126)
44.61 ..... 1)Asian Ch
46.70(A) ... 6)World Cup
44.64 ..... 3)Comm G
[45.09, 45.55, 45.66]

9. ALEJANDRO CÁRDENAS (Mex)
(9/4/74, 6-1 1/4/161)
44.92 ..... 2)Osaka GP
45.04 ..... 1)Ibero-A Ch
45.22 ..... 3)CAC Ch
45.47 ..... 4)Berlin GP
[3)Eug, 4)Malm, 3)TOTO]

10. DANNY McCRAY (US)
(3/11/74, 5-11/185)
45.23 ..... 4)Eugene GP
44.87 ..... 1sf)USATF
45.04 ..... 3)JJK GP
45.26 ..... 7)Monaco GP
45.09 ... 3)Lausanne GP
[dnf)US, 6)Paris, 5)Stock]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Michael Johnson** *
2. **Tyree Washington** *
3. **Jerome Young** *
4. **Antonio Pettigrew** *
5. **Alvin Harrison** *
6. **Danny McCray** *
7. **Jerome Davis** [1)SAC, 1)NC, 5)USA]
8. **Derrick Brew** [1)JC, 4h)USA, 1)Stutt]
9. **Milton Campbell** [3)NC, 6)USA, 4)Stutt]
10. **Butch Reynolds** [5sf)US, 2)Luc, 5)Good]



CHAI VAN DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

After becoming history's fastest 18-year-old last year (1:43.64), Kimutai added the 19-year-old best.

800 METERS

Kimutai Just A Kid

NUMBER ONE: After claiming the 2-lap lead in the year in which he turned 20, Kimutai may be on his way to becoming a legend. The only others to do it were Herb Elliott ('58) and Jim Ryun ('66), and we know how they turned out. Ryun actually did it in the year in which he turned only 19.

HE'S NOT THE ONLY KID ON THE BLOCK, as German surprise Schumann also turned 20 this year (albeit 7 months earlier). Schumann wasn't all that fast, but showed great racing skills in winning his two biggest races, the European Champs and the World Cup. Everett got his fifth U.S. No. 1.

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Mark Everett** *
2. **Johnny Gray** [1)SAC, 2)US, 5)Good]
3. **Trinity Townsend** [2)GaT, 3)US, 6)Good]
4. **Khadevis Robinson** [1)NC, 5)US, 1)Arnhem]
5. **David Krummenacker** [1)GaT, 2)NC, 2)Gates]
6. **Trinity Gray** [6)NC, 4)USA, 7)Good]
7. **Bryan Woodward** [7)US, 1)Bruns, 1)Mont]
8. **Albert Royster** [3)SAC, 5sf)US, 3)Ingol]
9. **Robin Martin** [1)Prince, 1)IC4A, 3)NC]
10. **Gabe Jennings** [3)Card, 2)Stan, 6)US]

1. JAPHETH KIMUTAI (Ken)
(12/20/78, 5-8/121)
1:47.7(A) .... 1)Kapsabet
1:45.0(A) ..... 1)Nairobi
1:45.43 ..... 1)Chemnitz
1:44.40 ..... 1)Rehlingen
1:45.62 ..... 2)Dortmund
1:44.83 ..... 5)Oslo GP
1:43.61 ..... 3)Rome GP
1:42.76 ..... 1)Stuttgart
1:44.86 ..... 3)Paris GP
1:45.75 ..... 2)Malmö
1:42.87 ..... 1)Zürich GP
1:45.82 ..... 1)Afr Ch
1:44.80 . 1)Brussels GP
1:49.16(A) 4)World Cup
1:43.82 ..... 1)Comm G
[1:46.88, 1:47.49]

2. PATRICK NDURURI (Ken)
(1/12/69, 5-11 1/2/161)
1:45.97 4)Bratislava GP
1:45.29 ..... 6)Oslo GP
1:45.14 .... 3)Vill-d'Ascq
1:42.90 ..... 1)Rome GP
1:45.30 ..... 1)Goodwill
1:45.07 ..... 4)Paris GP
1:43.82 ..... 1)Hechtel
1:43.80 .. 2)Monaco GP
1:43.21 ..... 3)Zürich GP
1:45.85 ..... 2)Afr Ch
[3)MeGP, 5)JoGP, 4)KenCh]

3. NILS SCHUMANN (Ger)
(5/20/78, 6-3 1/2/170)
1:48.02 ..... 2)Ger Ch
1:45.75 ... 1)Nuremberg
1:44.89 ..... 1)Euro Ch
1:45.36 . 4)Brussels GP
1:48.66(A) 1)World Cup
[1:46.12, 1:47.02, 1:47.18]

4. WILSON KIPKETER (Den)
(12/12/70, 5-7 3/4/137)
1:43.74 .. 1)Monaco GP
1:43.18 ..... 2)Zürich GP
1:50.13 ..... 8)Euro Ch
[1:46.19, 1:47.79]

5. MARK EVERETT (US)
(9/2/68, 6-0/163)
1:44.89 ..... 1)Rio GP
1:45.10 ..... 1)Doha GP
1:45.28 ..... 1)USATF
1:46.34 ..... 2)Lucerne
1:51.38 ... 10)Rome GP
1:46.69 ..... 4)Goodwill
1:46.91 ..... 1)Barcelona
1:45.78 . 3)Thessaloníki
1:44.48 .. 4)Monaco GP
1:45.07 . 3)Brussels GP
1:44.72 ..... 1)Rieti GP
1:48.73(A) 2)World Cup
[1:46.75, 1:47.21, 1:47.26]

6. DAVID KIPTOO (Ken)
(1/26/65, 5-8 3/4/150)
1:45.40 .. 2)Bratislava GP
1:45.06 ..... 1)Caorle
1:44.44 ..... 2)Oslo GP
1:44.20 ..... 1)Paris GP
1:44.92 .. 7)Monaco GP
1:43.60 ..... 4)Zürich GP
[3)Good, 2)Laus, 8)Brus]

7. NORBERTO TÉLLEZ (Cub)
(1/22/72, 5-10 3/4/161)
1:44.80 ..... 2)Padua
1:45.46 ..... 1)Lisbon
1:44.51 ..... 3)Oslo GP
1:45.92 ..... 2)Goodwill
1:45.07 ..... 2)Rieti GP
1:48.92(A) 3)World Cup
[1)Cub Ch, 1)CAC, 4)Laus]

8. MAHJOUB HAÏDA (Mor)
(7/1/70, 5-10 3/4/165)
1:43.50 ..... 2)Rome GP
1:44.87 ..... 1)Nice GP
1:44.79 ..... 2)Paris GP
1:44.65 .. 5)Monaco GP
[5)Doha, 9)Oslo, 1)Sheff]

9. ROBERT CHIRCHIR (Ken)
(11/26/72, 5-8/132)
1:45.03 .... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
1:44.95 ..... 2)Nice GP
1:43.33 ..... 3)Stuttgart
1:44.91 . 1)Thessaloníki
[2)Heng, 1)Brat, 9)Paris]

10. ANDREA LONGO (Ita)
(6/26/75, 6-3 1/4/187)
1:44.72 ..... 1)Padua
1:44.98 ..... 4)Rome GP
1:44.40 .. 3)Monaco GP
1:43.86 ..... 5)Zürich GP
[1)ECp, 7)EurCh, 3)Rieti]

1500 METERS/MILE

El G Claims 1500 WR

NUMBER ONE: After the results of '97, when he lost only a single slow-paced tactical race, it was apparent that in any full-tilt boogie affair that El Guerrouj was going to win. The question was just, "by how much?" The answer was, "lots," as he had an average margin of victory of no less than 3.31 seconds, and never won by less than 1.01. All that in a season of a dozen races where he broke the 1500's 3:30 barrier (including a mile conversion) no fewer than a record 6 times.

THE KENYAN INFLUENCE reached an all-time high, as the East Africans claimed half the spots and matched the event's all-time point total high with 31.

MARK SHEARMAN/THE SPORTING IMAGE



The 3:26 it took El Guerrouj to cross the line in Rome rated as the Perfomance Of The Year

y = mile race

1. HICHAM EL GUERROUJ (Mor)
(9/14/74, 5-9¼/126)
3:32.01i ..... 1)Liévin
3:31.19 . 1)Hengelo GP
3:32.34 1)St.-Denis GP
3:29.12 ..... 1)Oslo GP
3:26.00 ..... 1)Rome GP
3:44.60y ..... 1)Nice GP
3:49.01y ..... 1)Paris GP
3:28.37 .. 1)Monaco GP
3:26.45 ..... 1)Zürich GP
3:29.67 . 1)Brussels GP
3:30.23 ..... 1)Berlin GP
3:32.03 ..... 1)GP Final

2. LABAN ROTICH (Ken)
(1/20/69, 5-4¼/99)
3:32.11i ..... 2)Stuttgart
3:33.97i ..... 1)Gent
3:55.69yi ..... 1)Millrose
3:33.99i .... 1)Stockholm
3:36.06i ..... 3)Liévin
3:38.19i . 2)Sindelfingen
3:33.1(A) ..... 1)Nairobi
3:32.12 ..... 2)Oslo GP
3:30.94 ..... 2)Rome GP
3:51.02y ..... 2)Nice GP
3:54.15y ..... 8)Paris GP
3:51.74y . 1)Sheffield GP
3:30.06 .. 2)Monaco GP
3:29.91 ..... 2)Zürich GP
3:45.03 ..... 1)Afr Ch
3:39.67 8)Lausanne GP
3:33.08 . 3)Brussels GP
3:33.81 ..... 3)Berlin GP
3:33.04 ..... 2)GP Final
3:40.87(A) . 1)World Cup
3:39.49 ..... 1)Comm G

3. JOHN KIBOWEN (Ken)
(4/21/69, 5-8¾/141)
3:33.99 ..... 1)Doha GP
3:33.3(A) ..... 2)Nairobi
3:53.43y . 1)Bratislava GP
3:37.20(A) ..... 1)Ken Ch
3:31.08 ..... 3)Rome GP
3:30.76 ..... 1)Stuttgart
3:51.96y ..... 2)Paris GP
3:51.32y 1)Stockholm GP
3:30.36 .. 4)Monaco GP
3:30.18 ..... 3)Zürich GP
3:36.04 5)Lausanne GP
3:36.76 .... 11)Berlin GP
3:33.64 ..... 4)GP Final
3:42.71 ..... 4)Comm G

4. NOUREDDINE MORCELI (Alg)
(3/28/70, 5-7¾/137)
3:34.99 ..... 1)Rio GP
3:34.34 ..... 2)Doha GP
3:41.67 ..... 2)Osaka GP
3:54.09y ..... 1)adi/Ore
3:34.44 ..... 1)Athens
3:34.79 ..... 1)Cork
3:50.68y ..... 1)Zagreb
3:53.39y ..... 1)Goodwill
3:34.01 ..... 1)Malmö
3:52.08y 2)Stockholm GP
3:34.98 . 1)Lausanne GP
3:33.58 ..... 1)Rieti GP

5. DANIEL KOMEN (Ken)
(5/16/76, 5-7/121)
3:53.63y 1)Melbourne GP
3:50.95y .. 1)Eugene GP
3:37.85(A) ..... 3)Ken Ch
3:33.93 ..... 3)Oslo GP
3:35.15 ... 3)Nuremberg
3:31.10 ..... 4)Rome GP
3:54.78y ..... 3)Goodwill
3:32.81 .. 9)Monaco GP
3:30.49 ..... 4)Zürich GP
3:35.04 ..... 7)Berlin GP
3:33.86 ..... 6)GP Final

6. NOAH NGENY (Ken)
(11/2/78, 5-11½/150)
3:42.03 ..... 1)Canberra
3:56.06y 2)Melbourne GP
3:38.7 ..... 2)Sydney
3:52.38y .. 2)Eugene GP
3:37.2(A) ..... 4)Nairobi
3:36.23 ..... 2)Athens
3:37.69 ..... 13)Oslo GP
dnf ..... –)Nuremberg
3:31.01 ..... 2)Stuttgart
3:30.34 .. 3)Monaco GP
3:35.63 4)Lausanne GP
3:33.54 ..... 2)Berlin GP
3:33.81 ..... 5)GP Final

7. REYES ESTÉVEZ (Spa)
(8/2/76, 6-1½/154)
3:43.4 ..... 1)Granada
3:44.91 ..... 2)Euro Cup
3:34.19 ..... 5)Oslo GP
3:33.82 ..... 8)Rome GP
3:40.58 ..... 1)Spa Ch
3:31.34 .. 6)Monaco GP
3:30.87 ..... 5)Zürich GP
3:41.31 ..... 1)Euro Ch
3:33.61 . 5)Brussels GP
3:35.40 ..... 8)Berlin GP

8. WILLIAM TANUI (Ken)
(2/22/64, 6-0/154)
3:39.94i ..... 7)Stuttgart
3:39.41i ..... 5)Gent
3:39.66i .... 7)Stockholm
3:37.58i . 1)Sindelfingen
3:41.72(A) . 1)Joburg GP
3:35.36 ..... 4)Doha GP
3:39.42 15)St.-Denis GP
3:54.18y . 3)Bratislava GP
3:34.94 ..... 8)Oslo GP
3:38.01 ... 8)Nuremberg
3:54.05y ..... 2)Goodwill
3:54.11y ..... 1)JJK GP
3:52.31y ..... 3)Paris GP
3:52.20y 3)Stockholm GP
dnf ..... –)Monaco GP
3:32.02 ..... 6)Zürich GP
3:35.16 3)Lausanne GP
3:33.30 ..... 3)GP Final

9. RUI SILVA (Por)
(8/3/77, 5-8¾/143)
3:38.85i ..... 1)Por Ind
3:44.57i ..... 1)Euro Ind
3:35.91 ..... 1)Lisbon
3:36.00 ..... 1)Maia
3:35.88 .. 5B)Zürich GP
3:41.84 ..... 2)Euro Ch
3:34.84 . 8)Brussels GP
3:34.00 ..... 5)Berlin GP
3:40.95(A) 2)World Cup

10. ANDRÉS DÍAZ (Spa)
(7/12/69, 6-1½/157)
3:35.77i ..... 3)Stuttgart
3:38.67i ..... 4B)Gent
3:36.25 ..... 2)Lisbon
3:36.05 ..... 2)Maia
3:32.17 ..... 5)Rome GP
3:56.19y 1)Gateshead GP
3:40.98 ..... 2)Spa Ch
3:46.99 ..... 11)Euro Ch
3:32.48 . 2)Brussels GP
3:33.86 ..... 4)Berlin GP
3:34.02 ..... 7)GP Final

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Jamey Harris** [1)US, 4)Good, 5)JJK]
2. **Steve Holman** [4)US, 3)JJK, 4)Paris]
3. **Paul McMullen** [3)US, 6)Good, 6)JJK]
4. **Richie Boulet** [4)adi/O, 3)EugGP, 5)US]
5. **David Krummenacker** [8)US, 2)JJK, 7)Sheff]
6. **Jason Pyrah** [2)US, 8)Good, 7)JJK]
7. **Karl Paranya** [6)Osaka, 7)US, 8)JJK]
8. **Alan Culpepper** [1)Bould, 4)JJK, 2)Falm]
9. **Seneca Lassiter** [1)Tyson, 1)SEC, 1)NC]
10. **Gabe Jennings** [3)SAC, 2)NC, 5)WJr]

STEEPLE U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Pascal Dobert** [1)USA, 3)Linz, 4)Good]
2. **Mark Croghan** [1)Ow, 1)adi/O, 7h)USA]
3. **Tom Nohilly** [4)adi/O, 2)US, 2)Bruns]
4. **Tony Cosey** [3)adi/O, 4)US, 5)Good]
5. **John Mortimer** [2)NC, 3)USA, 7)Good]
6. **Robert Gary** [2)adi/O, 11)US, 6)Linz]
7. **Francis O'Neill** [3)SAC, 5)adi/O, 5)USA]
8. **Richard Lee** [4)SAC, 8)adi/O, 7)USA]
9. **Derek Kite** [11)SAC, 1)ReebV, 6)US]
10. **Rick Mestler** [2)Ore, 12)adi/O, 8)US]

STEEPLE

Barmasai Best

NUMBER ONE: Barmasai ran history's fastest time in '97, but could rate only No. 3. This year he produced the No. 8 time ever, but he claims the top spot with a solid record that found him claiming 9 wins and 4 runner-up finishes.

THE EVENT'S ALL-TIME SCORING saw some major changes, with Sang (81) and Kiptanui (77) moving into the top 2 spots, passing Bronislaw Malinowski (76) and Henry Marsh (75). Sang also tied Marsh for most appearances ever, 12. Kenyans claimed at least the first 6 places for the third year in a row.

1. BERNARD BARMASAI (Ken)
(5/6/74, 5-8/121)
8:11.57 ..... 1)Hengelo GP
8:15.30 ..... 1)Dortmund
8:09.60 ..... 2)Bratislava GP
8:22.07(A) ..... 1)Ken Ch
8:01.53 ..... 1)Nice GP
8:14.26 ..... 1)Goodwill
8:02.81 ..... 1)Paris GP
8:07.09 ..... 2)Stockholm GP
8:00.67 ..... 1)Monaco GP
8:01.98 ..... 1)Zürich GP
8:11.74 ..... 1)Afr Ch
8:31.85(A) ..... 2)World Cup
8:15.37 ..... 2)Comm G

2. WILSON BOIT (Ken)
(10/6/73, 5-7$^{3}/_{4}$/137)
8:21.06 ..... 2)Seville GP
8:32.2(A) ..... 2)Nairobi
8:32.06(A) ..... 6)Ken Ch
8:18.50 ..... 8)Nice GP
8:01.05 ..... 1)Stuttgart
8:15.24 ..... 1)Thessaloníki
8:06.13 ..... 1)Stockholm GP
8:04.97 ..... 2)Monaco GP
8:08.62 ..... 3)Zürich GP

3. MOSES KIPTANUI (Ken)
(10/1/70, 5-8$^{3}/_{4}$/132)
8:15.62 ..... 1)St.-Denis GP
8:10.15 ..... 1)Helsinki GP
8:04.96 ..... 1)Rome GP
dnf (inj) ..... –)Goodwill

4. PATRICK SANG (Ken)
(4/11/64, 5-10$^{3}/_{4}$/143)
8:14.43 ..... 3)Hengelo GP
8:17.81 ..... 4)St.-Denis GP
8:14.32 ..... 2)Helsinki GP
8:15.57 ..... 2)Bellinzona
8:16.89 ..... 1)Linz GP
8:14.33 ..... 6)Rome GP
8:14.07 ..... 3)Paris GP
8:08.01 ..... 3)Monaco GP
8:08.03 ..... 2)Zürich GP

5. PAUL KOSGEI (Ken)
(4/22/78, 5-8$^{3}/_{4}$/126)
8:27.61 ..... 8)St.-Denis GP
8:21.95 ..... 1)Ostrava
8:18.82 ..... 2)Athens
8:32.68(A) ..... 7)Ken Ch
8:15.58 ..... 7)Nice GP
8:07.86 ..... 2)Stuttgart
8:13.94 ..... 2)Paris GP
8:10.23 ..... 3)Stockholm GP
8:08.88 ..... 4)Monaco GP

6. KIPKIRUI MISOI (Ken)
(10/23/78)
8:23.31 ..... 1)Cottbus
8:20.49 ..... 2)Dortmund
8:25.23(A) ..... 4)Ken Ch
8:11.09 ..... 2)Rome GP
8:09.46 ..... 3)Stuttgart
8:18.30 ..... 7)Stockholm GP
8:12.85 ..... 4)Zürich GP
8:18.24 ..... 4)Rieti GP
8:18.24 ..... 3)Comm G

7. ELIUD BARNGETUNY (Ken)
(5/20/73, 5-8$^{3}/_{4}$/128)
8:20.76 ..... 1)Seville GP
8:17.27 ..... 2)St.-Denis GP
8:26.14 ..... 3)Athens
8:10.74 ..... 4)Nice GP
8:12.35 ..... 4)Stuttgart
8:18.58 ..... 6)Zürich GP

8. ELARBI KHATTABI (Mor)
(5/16/67, 5-8$^{1}/_{2}$/134)
8:21.42 ..... 3)Seville GP
8:17.55 ..... 3)St.-Denis GP
8:17.62 ..... 2)Linz GP
8:11.86 ..... 3)Rome GP
8:12.57 ..... 5)Nice GP
8:10.67 ..... 4)Stockholm GP
8:17.13 ..... 6)Monaco GP

9. BRAHIM BOULAMI (Mor)
(4/20/72, 5-10$^{3}/_{4}$/141)
8:20.00 ..... 3)Goodwill
8:14.86 ..... 5)Paris GP
8:16.44 ..... 6)Stockholm GP
8:11.30 ..... 5)Monaco GP
8:16.73 ..... 5)Zürich GP
8:29.52 ..... 3)Afr Ch
8:17.05 ..... 2)Rieti GP

10. JONATHAN KANDIE (Ken)
(12/20/67, 5-8$^{1}/_{2}$/132)
8:11.56 ..... 3)Bratislava GP
8:13.63 ..... 5)Rome GP
8:15.04 ..... 6)Nice GP
8:13.65 ..... 5)Stuttgart
8:12.05 ..... 5)Stockholm GP
[4)Paris, 7)Zürich, 5)Rieti]

(U.S. Rankings are on the facing page)

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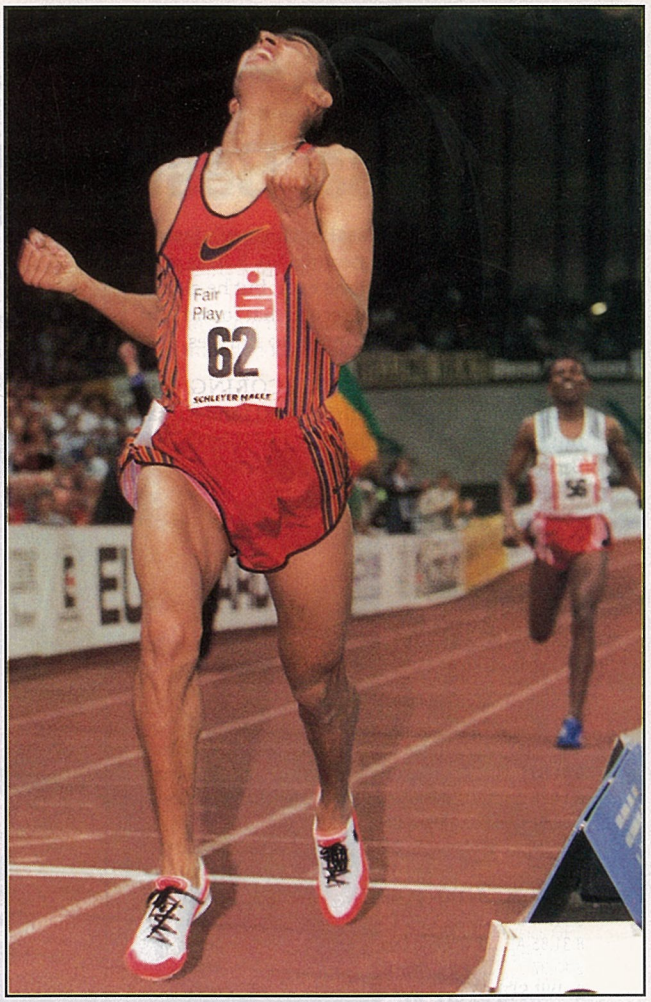
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Geb Edges El Guerrouj

Haile Gebrselassie won a narrow AOY vote over Hicham El Guerrouj, but don't you wonder what would happen if the two distance stars went head-to-head?



HAJO SPORT FOTO

The last time the two titans met on the track, February '97, both broke the indoor 1500 WR, El G winning easily. In their only previous meeting, Geb came out ahead in the '92 World Junior 5000.

by Sieg Lindstrom

Haile Gebrselassie, Hicham El Guerrouj. It was clear to *T&FN*'s panel of Athlete Of The Year voters that the 25-year-old Ethiopian and the 24-year-old Moroccan ran at the forefront in '98, but deciding which athlete had the very best season was a tough call to make—one of the toughest ever.

Only two AOY votes have been closer since we adopted the 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 scoring system 26 years ago. Those came in '77, when Alberto Juantorena topped Edwin Moses 285–281, and '94, when Noureddine Morceli beat out Colin Jackson 329–323.

This year's eventual top vote-getter Gebrselassie—the AOY once before, in '95—broke World Records at 5000 and 10,000 outdoors plus 2000 and 3000 indoors, and raced undefeated except for one foray below the lowest edge of his impressive range (see box).

El Guerrouj destroyed the 1500 WR, his 3:26.00 taking the standard to within a hair's breadth of a barrier-kind of number, 3:25. He made himself No. 2 all-time in two other closely related events, the mile and 2000. His margin of victory in his 12 outings averaged a hefty 3.31 seconds. He won his closest race all year by just over a full second (1.01).

Impressive racing, particularly if you were in Europe to witness some or all of it, as USATF champions Marc Davis, Jamey Harris and Pascal Dobert were. What were these American distance runners' impressions as they watched the world's best in '98? El Guerrouj's 1500 record certainly made one.

"We'd known that El Guerrouj was kind of closing in on the record," Harris says, "and then to see him just destroy it like that by 1.37 seconds and take it down to 3:26-flat, sort of says, Somebody eventually, soon, is probably going to run 3:25, and it may be him next year. That was like, 'My God!' "

On balance, Gebrselassie's full year earned the highest praise. "I would have to give the nod for AOY to Haile," says steeplechaser Dobert. "I think his range of 3000m to 10,000m is slightly more impressive than Hicham's ability to dominate over 1500m–2000m."

In '98, Gebrselassie was a decidedly dominant runner, and Davis pulls no punches: "My own opinion, and I think it's agreeable with at least most American athletes, if not most international athletes, is that if you put Gebrselassie up against Komen, El Guerrouj, what have you, in anything over a mile. . . maybe more like 2K and up, he's going to win every time.

"The guy's just got too powerful of a kick. I mean if a guy can run 26 at the end of a 10K, you can only imagine what he's got in his back pocket. We've seen him destroy Komen on a constant basis whenever he's raced him in a 5K.

"That's also why he runs such a great 5K and 10K: the strength. People misinterpret speed for strength sometimes, but speed doesn't come before strength; strength comes before speed.

"Gebrselassie definitely has the upper hand on that, but you've also got to look at the fact that El Guerrouj really hasn't tried to go up. . .

"I think that's by choice. I think Morceli for years chose to stay in the mile and 1500 because he dominated well. I think El Guerrouj is choosing to stay within that range. I think it's also a mission that he has to take down everything that Morceli's done. He's not hungry for the 5 and the 10. Gebrselassie wants to own everything from the 1500 to the 10K."

The relaxed confidence of both stars drew comment from the Americans as well. "I think it rather amusing at times the way Haile smiles ear to ear as the stadium announcer introduces him while the crowd goes crazy," says Dobert.

"El Guerrouj and the rest of the Moroccans," too, according to Davis, "are just absolutely wonderful—very warm, very welcoming. They're always inviting me over to Morocco to come stay with them and stay with their families."

And Davis can't help but marvel at Gebrselassie's beaming smile on the starting line at the biggest races: "You just think to yourself, God, it must be nice. To just stand there and realize, 'I'm going to crush everybody in this race and I'm just smiling.'

"I mean I get in a race and I'm losing it; I've lost it. Hicham and Haile are very lighthearted, taking everything in stride. But they're on top of the world. Why not?"

Geb's AOY Season

For all intents and purposes, Haile Gebrselassie was undefeated in '98, his sole setback coming at a way-too-short distance in an inconsequential indoor contest. Other than that, he was perfection:

7:26.15i WR	1)Karlsruhe	1/25
1:50.39i	6)Dortmund	1/30
3:31.76i	1)Stuttgart	2/01
3:33.27i	1)Gent	2/08
4:52.86i WR	1)Birmingham	2/15
7:31.70i	1)Stockholm	2/19
26:22.75 WR	1)Hengelo GP	6/01
12:39.36 WR	1)Helsinki GP	6/13
7:27.42	1)Oslo GP	7/09
13:02.63	1)Rome GP	7/14
7:25.54	1)Monaco GP	8/08
12:54.08	1)Zürich GP	8/12
7:25.09	1)Brussels GP	8/28
12:56.52	1)Berlin GP	9/01
7:50.00	1)GP Final	9/05

3000/5000/10,000

3 No. 1s For Gebrselassie

5000 NUMBER ONE: What the season really needed was another epic episode of Gebrselassie vs. Komen, but the Kenyan, apparently tired of "acting as a rabbit in Gebrselassie's World Record races," steered clear. Komen's countryman, Kipkosgei, however, challenged the speedy Ethiopian three times, the margin shrinking from a hefty 27.70 seconds to 3.82 to just 0.80. Maybe if they'd met one more time…?

EVEN WITHOUT KOMEN, Gebrselassie reclaimed the WR from the Kenyan as his four races averaged an astonishing 12:53.15, faster than anyone but Komen (with an indoor WR) ran in a single race all year.

1. HAILE GEBRSELASSIE (Eth)
(4/18/73, 5-3/119)
12:39.36 ... 1)Helsinki GP
13:02.63 ... 1)Rome GP
12:54.08 ... 1)Zürich GP
12:56.52 .... 1)Berlin GP

2. LUKE KIPKOSGEI (Ken)
(1975, 5-9¼/126)
13:23.07 ..... 1)Adelaide
13:12.04 ..... 1)Melb GP
13:07.83 . 1)Eugene GP
13:07.06 . 2)Helsinki GP
13:01.31 . 1)Nuremberg
13:20.27 ..... 1)Goodwill
12:57.90 ... 2)Zürich GP
12:57.32 .... 2)Berlin GP

3. DANIEL KOMEN (Ken)
(5/17/76, 5-7/121)
12:51.48i . 1)Stockholm
12:58.64 .... 1)Stock GP
13:35.70 ..... 1)Afr Ch
12:54.82 . 2)Brussels GP
13:46.57(A) . 1)World Cup
13:22.57 ..... 1)Comm G

4. ASSEFA MEZEGEBU (Eth)
(6/19/78, 5-8¾/121)
13:11.56 ..... 1)Kerkrade
13:06.91 . 2)St.-Denis GP
dnf ..... –)Helsinki GP
13:04.44 ... 5)Rome GP
12:58.31 ... 3)Zürich GP
12:53.84 . 1)Brussels GP
12:59.47 .... 3)Berlin GP

5. THOMAS NYARIKI (Ken)
(9/27/71, 5-7/137)
13:25.3(A) ..... 1)Nairobi
13:31.0(A) ..... 1)Ken Ch
13:03.68 ... 2)Rome GP
13:23.34 ..... 3)Goodwill
13:01.38 .... 3)Stock GP
13:00.04 ... 6)Zürich GP
13:00.87 . 3)Brussels GP
13:03.27 .... 5)Berlin GP
13:28.09 ..... 2)Comm G

6. PAUL TERGAT (Ken)
(6/17/69, 6-0/134)
13:37.0(A) ..... 6)Nairobi
13:01.31 . 2)Nuremberg
13:00.91 ..... 1)Stuttgart
12:58.74 ... 4)Zürich GP

7. BRAHIM LAHLAFI (Mor)
(4/15/68, 5-7¾/137))
13:04.14 ... 4)Rome GP
13:01.72 .... 4)Stock GP
13:01.10 ... 7)Zürich GP
13:00.56 .... 4)Berlin GP

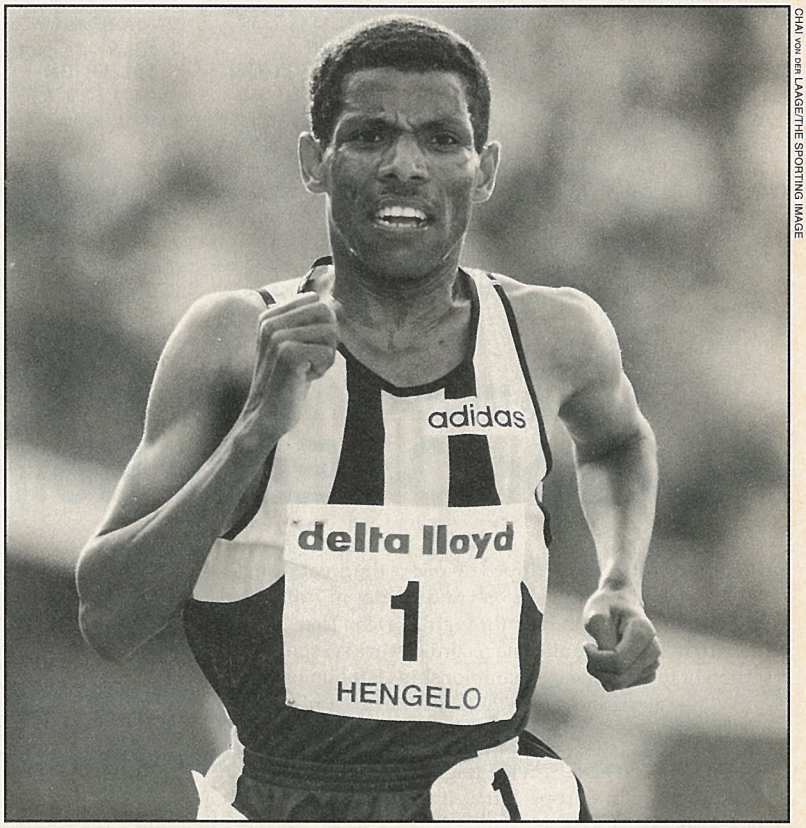
8. SALAH HISSOU (Mor)
(3/16/72, 5-9¼/137)
12:57.73 . 1)St.-Denis GP

9. KHALID BOULAMI (Mor)
(8/7/69, 5-5¾/132)
13:29.97 ..... 1)Tivoli
13:20.66 ..... 2)Goodwill
13:00.59 .... 2)Stock GP
13:41.04 ..... 3)TOTO

10. MILLION WOLDE (Eth)
(3/17/79, 5-8¾/130)
13:13.69 ..... 2)Kerkrade
13:14.56 . 4)St.-Denis GP
13:47.49 ..... 1)World Jr
12:59.39 ... 5)Zürich GP

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Bob Kennedy
[4)EugGP, 4)Good, 6)Ber]
2. Marc Davis
[14)EugGP, 1)US, 6)Good]
3. Alan Culpepper
[5)EugGP, 2)US, 8)Good]
4. Dan Browne
[2)SAC, 2)Turk, 6)WCp]
5. Pete Julian
[7)Eugene GP, 3)USA]
6. Adam Goucher
[1)Eug, 8)EugGP, 1)NC]
7. Meb Keflezighi
[3)SAC, 4)NC, 12)Hech]
8. Brad Hauser
[1)NC In, 5)NC, 4)USA]
9. Abdi Abdirahman
[7)NCi, 1)ReebV, 2)NC]
10. Jason Stewart
[5)SAC, 6)US, 9)Turku]

Gebrselassie briefly held the World Record indoors at 3000m, then reclaimed his all-time bests in the 5K and 10K once he moved outside.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

10,000 NUMBER ONE: If this year's order looks familiar that's because the first 3 are in exactly the same sequence as last time. Not only is that a first, it's also the first time even the first 2 have repeated in order. And there was no question about 1–2, what with Gebrselassie reclaiming the WR from Tergat, then the Kenyan winning the year's biggest GP race.

PASSING BIG NAMES Miruts Yifter and Pyotr Bolotnikov on the all-time scoring list, Geb is now No. 3 (58), trailing only Emil Zátopek (79) and Ron Clarke (64).

1. HAILE GEBRSELASSIE (Eth)
(4/18/73, 5-3/119)
26:22.75 .. 1)Hengelo GP

2. PAUL TERGAT (Ken)
(6/17/69, 6-0/134)
26:46.44 . 1)Brussels GP

3. PAUL KOECH (Ken)
(6/26/69, 5-7/132)
28:17.0(A) ..... 1)Nairobi
26:47.89 . 2)Brussels GP

4. JULIUS GITAHI (Ken)
(4/29/78, 5-6/115)
27:11.17 ..... 1)Kobe
27:49.26 ..... 1)Goodwill
27:18.11 . 3)Brussels GP

5. ANTÓNIO PINTO (Por)
(3/22/66, 5-5/130)
27:15.76 .. 2)Euro Chall
27:48.62 ..... 1)Euro Ch
27:22.98 6)Brussels GP

6. SIMON MAINA (Ken)
(3/18/78)
27:21.14 ..... 2)Kobe
27:59.6(A) ..... 1)Ken Ch
27:49.65 ..... 2)Goodwill
28:10.00 ..... 1)Comm G

7. FABIÁN RONCERO (Spa)
(10/19/70, 5-7¼/128)
27:14.44 .. 1)Euro Chall
27:48.79 ... 2)Barakaldo

8. MARK BETT (Ken)
(12/22/76, 5-10¾/141)
27:47.54 ..... 1)Prague
27:28.38 .. 1)Vill-d'Ascq
27:18.66 . 5)Brussels GP

9. DIETER BAUMANN (Ger)
(2/9/65, 5-10/137)
27:32.31 .. 3)Euro Chall
27:53.39 ..... 1)Lindau
27:56.75 ..... 2)Euro Ch

10. JON BROWN (GB)
(2/27/71, 5-7¾/126)
28:02.33 ..... 4)Euro Ch
27:18.14 . 4)Brussels GP

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Dan Browne
[1)USA, 5)Goodwill]
2. James Menon
[2)SAC, 2)US, 8)Good]
3. Reuben Reina
[3)USA, 7)Goodwill]
4. Brad Hauser
[1)Stan, 3)P-10, 1)NC]
5. Meb Keflezighi
[4)NC, 4)USA, 6)Good]
6. Rod DeHaven
[2)Dedham I, 5)USA]
7. Brent Hauser
[4)Stan, 2)NC, 17)V-d'A]
8. Mike Mykytok
[6)USA, 2)Montréal]
9. Scott Larson
[7)USA]
10. Nathan Nutter
[2)Penn, 3)NC, 9)USA]

3000 NUMBER ONE: Too bad Gebrselassie and Komen never met. Geb set an indoor WR at 7:26.15; Komen broke it with a 7:24.90. Then Komen ran the year's fastest time, a 7:58.91 for 2M that's worth 7:23.44. Unfortunately, the Kenyan wasn't much of a presence on the GP circuit, and lost once to countryman Kipkosgei, so GP winner Gebrselassie retained the top spot.

1. HAILE GEBRSELASSIE (Eth)
(4/18/73, 5-3/119)
7:26.15i ..... 1)Karlsruhe
7:31.70i .... 1)Stockholm
7:27.42 ..... 1)Oslo GP
7:25.54 .. 1)Monaco GP
7:25.09 . 1)Brussels GP
7:50.00 ..... 1)GP Final

2. DANIEL KOMEN (Ken)
(5/17/76, 5-7/121)
7:27.93i ..... 1)Stuttgart
7:24.90i ..... 1)Budapest
7:58.91y ..... 1)Sydney
7:32.55 ..... 1)Paris GP
7:36.58 2)Lausanne GP

3. LUKE KIPKOSGEI (Ken)
(1975, 5-9¼/126)
7:28.28 ..... 2)Oslo GP
7:33.20 ..... 2)Paris GP
7:27.59 .. 2)Monaco GP
7:36.48 1)Lausanne GP
7:32.27 . 2)Brussels GP
7:50.87 ..... 2)GP Final

4. JULIUS GITAHI (Ken)
(4/29/78, 5-6/115)
7:31.13 ..... 6)Oslo GP
7:48.88 ..... 1)JJK GP
7:51.49 ..... 3)GP Final

5. ASSEFA MEZEGEBU (Eth)
(6/19/78, 5-8¾/121)
7:36.02 ..... 10)Oslo GP
7:33.64 ..... 3)Paris GP
7:28.45 .. 3)Monaco GP
7:51.62 ..... 4)GP Final

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Bob Kennedy
[4)JJK, 4)Paris, 7)GPF]
2. Dan Browne
[2)Millr, 1)US In, 6)WCp]
3. Alan Culpepper
[1)Rio, 5)Sheff, 8)Laus]
4. Marc Davis
[2)USi, 2)Rio, 10)Sheff]
5. Brian Baker
[1)Ded, 1)EBos, 2)Hech]

110-METER HURDLES

Crear & Johnson Again

NUMBER ONE: Last year was the first time in the history of the Rankings the same two men had filled the 1–2 spots in the 110H 3 years in a row. Now it's 4. Crear won a narrow decision in '95; '96 and '97 belonged to Johnson, and now it's Crear's turn again. But not without a lot of thought.

JOHNSON CAME ON STRONG at the end of the season, but a horrendous 10-race losing streak at midseason just couldn't be overcome. Now if there had been a GP Final...

1. MARK CREAR (US)
(10/2/68, 6-1¼/174)
13.23w ..... 1)Mt. SAC
13.73 ..... 1)Oxy Inv
13.34 ..... 1)Hengelo GP
13.35 .... 1)St.-Denis GP
13.18w ..... 1)Padua
13.13 ... 1)Bratislava GP
13.14 ..... 2)Helsinki GP
13.06 ..... 2)USATF
13.04 ..... 1)Lucerne
13.28 ..... 1B)Budapest
13.08 ..... 1)Zagreb
13.06 ..... 1)Goodwill
13.11 ..... 1)Paris GP
13.33 ..... 4)Sheffield GP
13.07 ..... 1)Monaco GP
13.00 ..... 2)Zürich GP
13.30 ..... 4)Brussels GP
[13.17, 13.23]

2. ALLEN JOHNSON (US)
(3/1/71, 5-10/155)
13.45 .. 1)Melbourne GP
13.12 ..... 1)Eugene GP
13.32 ..... 2)Lucerne
13.31 ..... 2B)Budapest
13.52 ..... 2)Budapest
13.38w .... 3)Salamanca
13.34 ..... 4)Vill-d'Ascq
13.10 ..... 2)Goodwill
13.17 ..... 2)JJK GP
13.27 ..... 3)Paris GP
13.22 ..... 2)Sheffield GP
13.07 ..... 2)Monaco GP
12.98 ..... 1)Zürich GP
13.07 ... 1)Lausanne GP
13.06 ..... 1)Brussels GP
13.42 ..... 2)vGB
13.12 ..... 1)Berlin GP
13.58 ..... 2)TOTO
[13.22, 13.43, 13.56]

3. COLIN JACKSON (GB)
(2/18/67, 5-11½/161)
13.12 ..... 1)Helsinki GP
13.15 ..... 1)Athens
13.17 ..... 1)Euro Cup
13.10 ..... 1)Bellinzona
13.18 ..... 2)Linz GP
13.07 ..... 1)Nuremberg
13.17 ..... 4)Goodwill
13.02 ..... 1sf)Euro Ch
13.02 ..... 1) "
13.09 ... 2)Lausanne GP
13.16 ..... 2)Brussels GP
13.20 ..... 2)Berlin GP
13.11(A) ... 2)World Cup
[dnf)Doha, 1)Gate, 3)Shef]

4. REGGIE TORIAN (US)
(4/22/75, 6-3/180)
13.20 ..... 2)Eugene GP
13.03 ..... 1)USATF
13.17 ..... 1)Linz GP
13.16 ..... 3)Goodwill
13.07 ..... 1)JJK GP
13.15 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
13.33 ..... 4)Monaco GP
13.11 ..... 3)Zürich GP
[2)V-d'A, 2)Paris, 8)WCp]

5. FALK BALZER (Ger)
(12/14/73, 6-2¼/176)
13.18 ..... 2)Nuremberg
13.13 ..... 3)Monaco GP
13.12 ..... 2)Euro Ch
13.46 ... 6)Lausanne GP
13.29 ..... 3)Brussels GP
13.32 ..... 3)Berlin GP
[2)EurCp, 5)Zür, 1)WCup]

6. COURTNEY HAWKINS (US)
(7/11/67, 6-0/160)
13.21 ..... 1)Nice GP
13.19 ..... 1)Stuttgart
13.17 ..... 1)Ingolstadt
13.33 ..... 4)Paris GP
[5sf)US, 5)Bruss, 4)Ber]

7. ROBIN KORVING (Hol)
(7/29/74, 6-2/183)
13.21 ..... 4)Zürich GP
13.20 ..... 3)Euro Ch
13.32 ... 4)Lausanne GP
13.25(A) ... 4)World Cup
[5)Mon, 9)Bruss, 7)Ber]

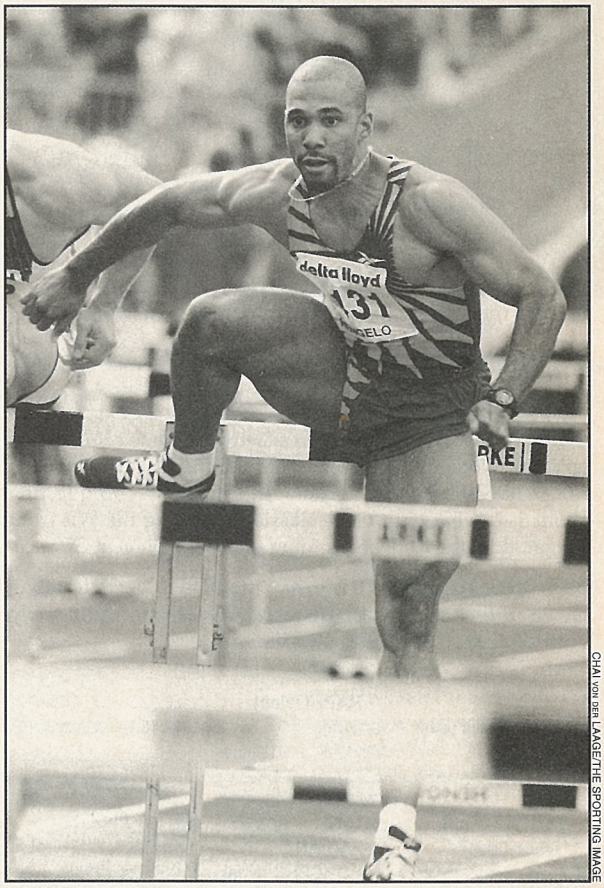
8. FLORIAN SCHWARTHOFF (Ger)
(5/7/68, 6-7/176)
13.29 ..... 3)Nuremberg
13.26 ..... 2)Stuttgart
13.34 ..... 5)Paris GP
13.19 ..... 2sf)Euro Ch
13.23 ..... 4) "
[3)GerCh, 1)Rieti, 6)Ber]

9. ANIER GARCÍA (Cub)
(3/9/76, 6-0/165)
13.24 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
13.27 ..... 1)CAC Ch
13.31 ... 3)Lausanne GP
13.14(A) .. 3)World Cup
[3)Linz, 5)Good, 5)Rieti]

10. JACK PIERCE (US)
(9/23/62, 6-¾/185)
13.34 ..... 5)USATF
13.30 ..... 4)Nuremberg
13.26 ..... 4)Stuttgart
13.35 ..... 6)Zürich GP
[2)Nice, 5)JJK, 6)Mon]

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Mark Crear *
2. Allen Johnson *
3. Reggie Torian *
4. Courtney Hawkins *
5. Jack Pierce *
6. Duane Ross [dnf)US, 3)V-d, 3)Nice]
7. Dudley Dorival [5)St-D, 3)US, 7)Good]
8. Anthony Dees [3)EugGP, 4)US, 6)Good]
9. Roger Kingdom [4)EugGP, 7)US, 3)JJK]
10. Larry Wade [1)NC, 6)USA, 4)JJK]

Crear had the year's best set of times, and beat Johnson 5–3.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

400-METER HURDLES

Bronson On Early Roll

NUMBER ONE: Bronson ripped off one of the great strings in event history, breaking the 48-second barrier in 7 of 9 finals (and one more in a prelim) through Zürich. That left him poised to challenge the all-time record of 9 in a season, but the insertion of the European Championships left him with a 16-day gap in his schedule, and when he returned he just wasn't quite the same. Still, he was an easy-easy choice for No. 1.

IN A NON-GP YEAR, Taylor might have earned a No. 2 without running in Europe, but as it was, we couldn't do it.

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Bryan Bronson *
2. Angelo Taylor *
3. Eric Thomas *
4. Joey Woody *
5. Calvin Davis [5)EugGP, 7)US, 4)Nice]
6. Regan Nichols [4)US, 1)Salam, 6)Nice]
7. William Porter [5)US, 3)Sala, 1)Funch]
8. Kevin Young [2)FlaR, 1)Ath, 3)Funch]
9. Octavius Terry [4)FlaR, 2)GaT, 6)US]
10. Derrick Adkins [3)FlaR, 8sf)US, 8)Good]

1. BRYAN BRONSON (US)
(9/9/72, 6-0/161)
50.70 ..... 1)Hobart
48.40 .. 1)Melbourne GP
48.49 ..... 1)Sydney
48.47 . 1)Fort-de-France
48.33 ..... 1)Doha GP
48.45 ..... 1)Eugene GP
47.93 ..... 1)Houston
47.03 ..... 1)USATF
48.09 ..... 1)Lucerne
47.94 ..... 1)Oslo GP
47.76 ..... 1)Rome GP
47.15 ..... 1)Goodwill
48.22 ..... 1)JJK GP
47.93 ..... 1)Monaco GP
47.70 ..... 1)Zürich GP
48.25 ..... 1)Brussels GP
48.03 ..... 1)Berlin GP
48.94 ..... 6)GP Final
[47.81, 49.41]

2. STÉPHANE DIAGANA (Fra)
(7/23/69, 6-½/155)
48.46 ..... 5)Rome GP
49.65 ..... 7)Nice GP
48.62 ..... 4)Goodwill
48.53 ..... 3)Paris GP
48.70 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
dnf-sf ..... –)Euro Ch
48.45 ... 1)Lausanne GP
48.69 ..... 5)Brussels GP
48.04 ..... 2)Berlin GP
48.30 ..... 1)GP Final

3. ANGELO TAYLOR (US)
(12/29/78, 6-2/170)
49.65 ..... 1)Fla R
49.18 ..... 1)ACC
49.31 ..... 1)Owens
49.06 ..... 1)GaT/Reeb
48.14 ..... 1)NCAA
47.90 ..... 2)USATF
47.92 ..... 2)Goodwill
[49.74, 50.09, 50.64]

4. RUSLAN MASHCHENKO (Rus)
(11/11/71, 6-4/183)
48.06 ..... 1)Helsinki GP
48.49 ..... 1)Euro Cup
48.32 ..... 2)Oslo GP
48.22 ..... 3)Rome GP
48.70 ..... 5)Goodwill
48.32 ..... 2)JJK GP
48.08 ..... 2)Paris GP
48.42 ..... 3)Monaco GP
48.24 ..... 2)Zürich GP
48.25 ..... 2)Euro Ch
49.13 ... 7)Lausanne GP
48.46 ..... 2)Brussels GP
48.77 ..... 4)Berlin GP
48.93 ..... 5)GP Final
[3)St-D, 2)Bratis, 2)Nice]

5. DINSDALE MORGAN (Jam)
(11/19/72, 6-2/170)
48.13 ..... 2)Rome GP
48.51 ..... 1)Nice GP
48.37 ..... 3)JJK GP
48.30 ..... 2)Monaco GP
48.41 ..... 3)Zürich GP
48.50 ..... 3)Brussels GP
48.91 ..... 5)Berlin GP
48.60 ..... 2)GP Final
48.40(A) ... 3)World Cup
48.28 ..... 1)Comm G
[4)EugGP, 4)St-D, 5)Par]

6. SAMUEL MATETE (Zam)
(7/7/68, 6-0/179)
48.32 ..... 1)Osaka GP
48.56 ..... 1)Afr Ch
48.66 ... 3)Lausanne GP
48.73 ..... 3)GP Final
48.08(A) .. 1)World Cup
48.34 ..... 1)TOTO
[4)Zür, 4)Bruss, 6)Berlin]

7. ERIC THOMAS (US)
(12/1/71, 6-3/192)
48.45 ..... 2)Doha GP
48.48 ... 2)Lausanne GP
48.67 ..... 3)Berlin GP
48.84 ..... 4)GP Final
[5s)US, 7)JJK, 6)Zürich]

8. JOEY WOODY (US)
(5/22/73, 6-2/172)
47.97 ..... 3)USATF
48.69 ..... 6)Rome GP
48.59 ..... 3)Goodwill
48.88 ..... 6)Monaco GP
[6)JJK, 7)GPF, 5)WCup]

9. LLEWELLYN HERBERT (SA)
(7/21/77, 6-0/165)
50.23 .. 5)Melbourne GP
48.43(A) .. 1)Joburg GP
48.76 ..... 3)Helsinki GP
48.78 ..... 4)Oslo GP
[1)SA Ch, 7)St-D, 5)AfCh]

10. PAWEL JANUSZEWSKI (Pol)
(1/2/72, 5-10½/141)
48.17 ..... 1)Euro Ch
48.87 ..... 6)Brussels GP
49.12 ..... 7)Berlin GP
49.58 ..... 1)Sopot
48.49(A) ... 4)World Cup

20K WALK

Markov In Big Ones

NUMBER ONE: Markov walked in three races that had a major effect on the rankings, and won them all. Goodwill he won most convincingly, by a huge 2:23 margin over reigning No. 1 García, with another 3:26 back to Olympic champ Pérez.

THE RUNNER-UP IN '96, Markov fell to No. 6 last year before picking up his first-ever No. 1.

1. ILYA MARKOV (Rus)
(6/19/72, 5-9¼/141)
1:20:23 ..... 1)Barcelona
1:19:46 ..... 2)Turku
1:23:30t ..... 1)Goodwill
1:21:10 ..... 1)Euro Ch
1:19:36 ..... 1)Turku
1:24:52 ..... 1)Pol Ch

2. JEFFERSON PÉREZ (Ecu)
(7/1/74, 5-6/134)
1:22:53 ..... 1)SAm Cup
1:26:34(A) ..... 3)Toluca
1:22:42t ..... 1)Bergen
1:19:40 .... 1)La Coruña
1:19:19 .... 1)Naumburg
1:29:19t ..... 3)Goodwill

3. AIGARS FADEJEVS (Lat)
(12/27/75, 5-7/130)
1:19:44 ..... 1)Rio Maior
1:20:44 ..... 3)Euro Cup
1:20:54 ..... 2)Barcelona
1:21:25 ..... 2)Euro Ch
1:19:55 ... 2)Hildesheim

4. FRANCISCO FERNÁNDEZ (Spa)
(3/5/77, 5-7¾/143)
1:22:06 ..... 1)Orense
1:22:10 ..... 1)Spa Ch
1:20:31 ..... 1)Euro Cup
1:21:23 ..... 3)Barcelona
1:21:19 .... 5)La Coruña
1:21:39 ..... 3)Euro Ch

5. ROBERT KORZENIOWSKI (Pol)
(7/30/68, 5-6/132)
1:20:40 ..... 2)Euro Cup
1:19:46 .... 4)La Coruña
1:22:27 ..... 1)Aus Ch
1:21:12 .. 2)Eisenhüttenst
1:24:59 ..... 1)Comm G

6. DANIEL GARCÍA (Mex)
(10/28/71, 5-6/123)
1:24:51(A) ..... 1)Toluca
1:20:32 ..... 1)Wajima
1:20:50 1)Eisenhüttenst
dq ..... –)La Coruña
1:19:41 .... 2)Naumburg
1:25:53t ..... 2)Goodwill
1:23:32 ..... 1)CAC G
1:29:58 2)Pan-Am Cup

7. NICK A'HERN (Aus)
(1/6/69, 5-7/132)
1:21:40 ..... 1)Adelaide
1:22:27 ..... 1)Aus Ch
1:21:12 .. 2)Eisenhüttenst
1:24:59 ..... 1)Comm G

8. ANDREAS ERM (Ger)
(3/12/76, 6-½/143)
1:21:12 ..... 4)Euro Cup
1:22:59 .. 6)Eisenhüttenst
1:20:57 .. 10)Naumburg
1:21:53 ..... 4)Euro Ch

9. SÁNDOR URBANIK (Hun)
(12/15/64, 5-8/128)
1:23:37 .... 17)Euro Cup
1:22:27 ..... 4)Barcelona
1:22:16 ..... 2)Senigallia
1:22:12 ..... 5)Euro Ch

10. IVAN TROTSKIY (Blr)
(5/27/76, 5-5¾/110)
1:19:48 .... 4)Naumburg
1:22:46 ..... 6)Euro Ch

t = race on track

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Curt Clausen
[2]US, 6)Good, 10)PAC]
2. Tim Seaman
[28)LaC, 1)US, dq)Good]
3. Jonathan Matthews
[3]US, 7)Good, 13)PAC]
4. Gary Morgan
[4]US, 5)Good, 20)PAC]
5. Al Heppner
[dq)LaC, 5)US,11)PAC]
6. Andrew Hermann
[6)Ber, 18)LaC, dq)US]
7. Mike Rohl
[1)DCI, 6)USA]
8. Mark Green
[1)WReg, 7)USA]
9. Phil Dunn
[8)Ber, dnf)LaCor, 8)US]
10. Theron Kissinger
[9)USA]

Korzeniowski—No. 5 & No. 1—was the only double scorer.

MICHAEL RAMSEYER



50K WALK

Korzeniowski Back

NUMBER ONE: No two seasons are alike. Thus it is that Korzeniowski could contest just one race and be No. 1, whereas the lack of a second competition cost him the top spot in '97. But unlike last year, none of the multiple-race people earned as much in the honors department as did the Pole with his European Championships win.

ON THE U.S. SIDE, Clausen becomes only the third ever to lead both the 20 and 50, following Larry Young '72-'75, Tim Lewis '90 and Allen James '94-'95.

1. ROBERT KORZENIOWSKI (Pol)
(7/30/68, 5-6/132)
3:43:51 ..... 1)Euro Ch

2. MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ (Mex)
(5/15/67, 5-8/146)
3:47:46 ..... 1)Poza Rica
3:43:15 .... 1)Naumburg

3. VALENTIN KONONEN (Fin)
(3/7/69, 5-11¼/152)
3:48:50 ..... 9)Euro Cup
3:44:29 ..... 2)Euro Ch

4. ANDREY PLOTNIKOV (Rus)
(8/12/67, 6-1¼/170)
3:41:14 ..... 1)Rus Ch
3:45:53 ..... 3)Euro Ch

5. TOMASZ LIPIEC (Pol)
(5/10/71, 6-¾/159)
3:42:57 ..... 1)Euro Cup
3:49:03 .... 5)Naumburg
3:48:05 ..... 5)Euro Ch

6. MIKEL ODRIOZOLA (Spa)
(5/25/73, 5-10¾/137)
3:49:11 ..... 3)Spa Ch
3:47:24 ..... 4)Euro Ch

7. JESÚS GARCÍA (Spa)
(10/17/69, 5-7¼/137)
3:48:51 ..... 2)Spa Ch
3:43:17 ..... 2)Euro Cup
dq ..... –)Euro Ch

8. SANTIAGO PÉREZ (Spa)
(1/15/72, 5-10½/154)
3:45:55 ..... 1)Spa Ch
3:48:17 ..... 6)Euro Ch

9. GIOVANNI PERRICELLI (Ita)
(8/25/67, 5-7/126)
3:44:17 ..... 3)Euro Cup
dnf ..... –)Euro Ch

10. ALEKSEY VOYEVODIN (Rus)
(8/9/70, 5-10½/141)
3:46:31 ..... 4)Euro Cup

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Curt Clausen
[1)USA, dnf)Poza Rica]
2. Tim Seaman
[3)USA, dnf)Poza Rica]
3. Andrew Hermann
[3)USA, dnf)Poza Rica]
4. Al Heppner
[4)USA, 20)Poza Rica]
5. Phil Dunn
[4)Pan-Am Cup]
6. Marco Evoniuk
[5)USA, 5)PAm Cup]
7. Theron Kissinger
[6)Pan-Am Cup]
8. Mark Green
[6)USA, 7)PAm Cup]
9. Yariv Pomeranz
[7)USA]
10. Doug Johnson
[8)USA]

WE MISS YOU ALREADY, LARRY

A close personal friend of Steve Simmons and ACCUSPLIT, Larry Ellis was held in the highest regard by his fellow coaches. Larry demonstrated his leadership in several capacities with USA Track & Field, including President, and became a stabilizing influence among American track & field coaches for many years.

He was loved and revered by coaches and administrators across the country, and, most of all, by hundreds of athletes who thought of him as much more than a coach, even more than a teacher—a mentor. He inspired each of us to reach high in our personal goals, especially in the molding of our character.

He was, and always will be, a mentor of mentors.

Always,

Steve Simmons

ACCUSPLIT

HIGH JUMP

Soto's Record 8th

NUMBER ONE: Sotomayor has had several seasons better than his '98 one, but the critical fact is that nobody else had a better season in '98, so the Cuban wonder, just 30 during the season, ups his record for most No. 1s in the event to 8. Indeed, only 5 other men—Sergey Bubka PV 13, Carl Lewis LJ 10, Janis Lusis JT 9, Edwin Moses 400H 9, Viktor Saneyev TJ 9—have more No. 1s in any event.

SOTO ALSO CLAIMED EVENT RECORDS for the most overall points (109), most appearances in the rankings (13) and tied the record for the most consecutive appearances (12).

1. JAVIER SOTOMAYOR (Cub)
(10/13/67, 6-4¾/181)
2.30 7-6½ ..... 1)Barr M
2.30(A) 7-6½ ..... 1)Mexico City
2.30(A) 7-6½ ..... 1)Lima
2.31 7-7 ..... 1)Zagreb
2.25 7-4½ ..... =6)Oslo GP
2.34 7-8 ..... 1)Nice GP
2.33 7-7¾ ..... 1)Goodwill
2.27 7-5¼ ..... 3)Eberstadt
2.29 7-6 ..... 2)Paris GP
2.35 7-8½ ..... 1)Cub Ch
2.32 7-7¼ ..... 2)Zürich GP
2.37 7-9¼ ..... 1)CAC Ch
2.31 7-7 ..... 1)Rieti GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 2)Berlin GP
2.31 7-7 ..... 1)GP Final
2.28(A) 7-5¾ ..... 2)World Cup
2.20 7-2½ ..... 3)TOTO

2. CHARLES AUSTIN (US)
(12/19/67, 6-½/170)
2.24 7-4¼ 2)Melbourne GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)Doha GP
2.30 7-6½ ..... 1)USATF
2.30 7-6½ ..... 2)Nice GP
2.33 7-7¾ ..... 2)Goodwill
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)JJK GP
2.20 7-2½ ..... 7)Stock GP
2.32 7-7¼ ... 1)Leverkusen
2.32 7-7¼ ..... 3)Zürich GP
2.15 7-½ .. =7)Brussels GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 4)Rieti GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 3)GP Final
2.31(A) 7-7 ..... 1)World Cup
[7-7¾i, 7-7¼i, 7-7]

3. SERGEY KLYUGIN (Rus)
(3/24/74, 6-½/170)
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)Moscow
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)Euro Cup
2.24 7-4¼ ..... 2)Byrkjelo
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 3)Oslo GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 2)JJK GP
2.29 7-6 ..... 1)Paris GP
2.36 7-8¾ ..... 1)Zürich GP
2.32 7-7¼ ..... 3)Euro Ch
2.28 7-5¾ .. 1)Brussels GP
2.24 7-4¼ ..... 5)Berlin GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 4)GP Final
2.25 7-4½ .... 1)Salgótarján
2.28(A) 7-5¾ ..... 3)World Cup
[7)Good, =5)Stock, 9)TOTO]

4. ARTUR PARTYKA (Pol)
(7/25/69, 6-3½/152)
2.31i 7-7 ..... 1)Euro Ind
2.32i 7-7¼ ..... 1)Spala
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)Oslo GP
2.15 7-½ ..... 12)Nice GP
2.33 7-7¾ ..... 1)Eberstadt
2.25 7-4½ ..... 8)Zürich GP
2.34 7-8 ..... 1)Euro Ch
2.20 7-2½ =3)Brussels GP
2.20 7-2½ ..... =6)Rieti GP
[6)Athens, 1)Pol Ch, =8)Paris]

5. MARTIN BUSS (Ger)
(4/7/76, 6-4¾/181)
2.30 7-6½ ..... 1)Ger Ch
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 2)Oslo GP
2.33 7-7¾ ..... 2)Eberstadt
2.30 7-6½ ..... 6)Zürich GP
2.32 7-7¼ ..... 4)Euro Ch
2.25 7-4½ ..... 5)GP Final
2.25(A) 7-4½ ..... 4)World Cup
[=4)Nice, 2)Bruss, 7)Berlin]

6. DALTON GRANT (GB)
(4/8/66, 6-1¼/161)
2.27 7-5¼ ..... 5)Athens
2.28 7-5¾ ... 4)Leverkusen
2.34 7-8 ..... 2)Euro Ch
2.31 7-7 ..... 1)Comm G
[=4)Nice, 9)Zür, =6)W Cup]

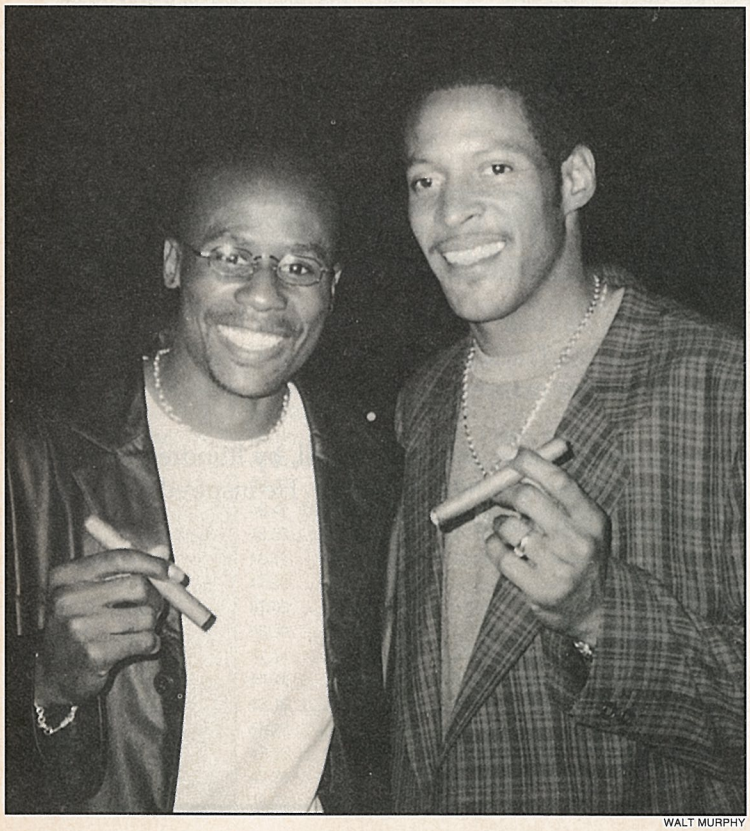
7. STEFAN HOLM (Swe)
(5/25/76, 5-11¼/154)
2.33 7-7¾ ..... 1)Eurajöki
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)Swe Ch
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 3)Rieti GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 1)Berlin GP
[2)Stock, 7)Eur Ch, 6)GPF]

8. STAFFAN STRAND (Swe)
(4/18/76, 6-2/163)
2.30i 7-6½ ... 1)Minneapolis
2.29 7-6 .. 1)Stockholm GP
2.30 7-6½ ... 3)Leverkusen
2.31 7-7 ..... 2)Rieti GP
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 2)GP Final
[7)Zür, 8)Eur Ch, 3)Berl]

9. BRIAN BROWN (US)
(1/9/67, 6-3/160)
2.30i 7-6½ ..... 1)Saskatoon
2.29 7-6 ..... 3)Goodwill
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 3)JJK GP
2.30 7-6½ .... =4)Zürich GP
[=3)Bruss, 4)Berlin, =7)GPF]

10. STEINAR HOEN (Nor)
(2/8/71, 6-3½/169)
2.32i 7-7¼ ..... 2)Wuppertal
2.28 7-5¾ ..... 3)Nice GP
2.30 7-6½ ..... 1)Nor Ch
2.30 7-6½ ..... 6)Euro Ch
[4)Good, =3)Bruss, =7)GPF]

The victory cigar was Austin's after the World Cup, but yearly honors went to the Cuban himself, Sotomayor (r).



WALT MURPHY

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Charles Austin** *
2. **Brian Brown** *
3. **Nathan Leeper**
   [1)NC, 2)USA, 6)Good]
4. **Steve Smith**
   [3)US In, 5)USA, 5)JJK]
5. **Hollis Conway**
   [6)US In, =3)USA, 7)JJK]
6. **Shane Lavy**
   [3)NC In, =4)NC, 6)US]
7. **Jeremy Fischer**
   [5)NC In, 2)NC, =7)US]
8. **Kenny Evans**
   [1)NC In, =4)NC, nh)US]
9. **Sam Hill**
   [1)US In, 4)Drake, nh)US]
10. **James Nieto**
    [5)SAC, 6)NC, =7)US]

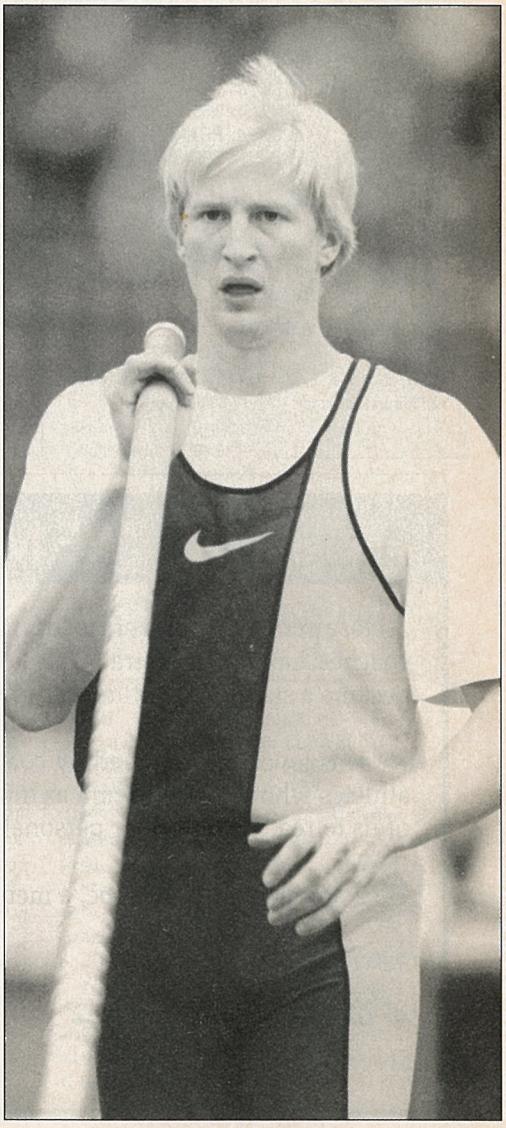
POLE

Tarasov Won

NUMBER ONE: Hartwig put up most of the year's big numbers, leading the list at 19-8½ and topping the 19-foot barrier in no fewer than 22 meets. That's a record, Sergey Bubka having done it 20 times three years straight 1991–93. Hartwig also had a record 13 meets in a row over 19. The one number where Hartwig was beaten, though, was in head-to-head matchups with Tarasov, and the Russian's solid 7–3 edge (including the GP Final) gave him the top spot.

SPEAKING OF BUBKA, injury problems finally ended his streak of ranking appearances at 15 straight. Bubka has almost always topped the world list during his decade and a half at the top, but when it wasn't him, it wasn't an American. Hartwig becomes the first U.S. vaulter to have the highest vault since Mike Tully's 18-8¾—then the highest ever—way back in '78.

Tarasov didn't have the year's best marks, but he had the best wins.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

VAULT

Head-To-Head

1. MAKSIM TARASOV (Rus)
(12/2/70, 6-4¼/176)
5.91i 19-4¾ ..... 1)Budapest
5.90i 19-4¼ ..... 1)Gent
5.92i 19-5 .... =1)Stockholm
5.91i 19-4¾ ..... 2)Liévin
5.50 18-½ ..... 1)Tivoli
5.90 19-4¼ .. 2)St.-Denis GP
5.86 19-2¾ .... 1)Dortmund
5.62 18-5¼ ..... 5)Athens
5.80 19-¼ .... 1)Salamanca
5.85 19-2¼ .... 1)Rome GP
5.90 19-4¼ ..... 2)Nice GP
5.83 19-1½ .... 2)Ingolstadt
5.68 18-7½ ..... 3)Paris GP
5.90 19-4¼ . 1)Monaco GP
5.86 19-2¾ .... 1)Zürich GP
5.81 19-¾ ..... 1)Euro Ch
5.70 18-8¼ 5)Lausanne GP
5.85 19-2¼ 2)Brussels GP
5.95 19-6¼ ..... 1)GP Final
5.85(A) 19-2¼ ..... 1)World Cup

2. JEFF HARTWIG (US)
(9/25/67, 6-3/185)
5.80 19-¼ . 2)Melbourne GP
5.80 19-¼ ..... 1)Rio GP
5.92 19-5 .... 1)Eugene GP
6.00 19-8¼ .. 1)St.-Denis GP
5.85 19-2¼ ..... 1)USATF
5.80 19-¼ ..... 3)Linz GP
5.90 19-4¼ ..... 1)Oslo GP
5.85 19-2¼ .... 3)Rome GP
5.85 19-2¼ ..... 3)Nice GP
6.01 19-8½ ..... 1)Goodwill
5.78 18-11½ .... 1)Paris GP
5.80 19-¼ ... 2)Monaco GP
5.80 19-¼ ..... 4)Zürich GP
5.60 18-4½7)Lausanne GP
5.95 19-6¼ 1)Brussels GP
5.86 19-2¾ .... 1)Berlin GP
5.60 18-4½ ..... 7)GP Final
5.70(A) 18-8¼ ..... 3)World Cup
[1)Millrose, 1)Drake, 1)TOTO]

3. DMITRIY MARKOV (Blr)
(3/18/75, 5-10¾/157)
5.85 19-2¼ ..... 1)Adelaide
6.00 19-8¼ . 1)N Shore City
5.80 19-¼ ..... 1)Linz GP
5.85 19-2¼ .... 2)Rome GP
5.95 19-6¼ ..... 1)Nice GP
5.68 18-7½ ..... 6)Paris GP
5.60 18-4½ .. =8)Zürich GP
5.80 19-¼ ..... 4)GP Final
[nh)Doha, nh)Bruss, 8)Berlin]

4. DANNY ECKER (Ger)
(7/21/77, 6-3½/172)
5.85 19-2¼ .... 4)Rome GP
5.86 19-2¾ ..... 1)Stuttgart
5.93 19-5½ .... 1)Ingolstadt
5.80 19-¼ . 3)Lausanne GP
5.80 19-¼ .. 3)Brussels GP
5.70 18-8¼ ..... 2)Berlin GP
5.80 19-¼ ..... 3)GP Final
[2)Linz, 6)Zür, 4)Eur Ch]

5. TIM LOBINGER (Ger)
(9/3/72, 6-4/176)
5.82 19-1 ..... 2)Athens
5.92 19-5 ..... 1)Nuremberg
5.70 18-8¼ ..... 7)Nice GP
5.81 19-¾ ..... 2)Euro Ch
5.60 18-4½ ..... 3)Berlin GP
5.70 18-8¼ ..... 1)Cologne
5.80(A) 19-¼ ..... 2)World Cup
[5)St.-D, =3)Oslo, 10)Rome]

6. JEAN GALFIONE (Fra)
(6/9/71, 5-11½/168)
5.90 19-4¼ ..... 1)Paris
5.97 19-7 ..... 1)Athens
5.85 19-2¼ ..... 1)Fra Ch
5.90 19-4¼ 1)Lausanne GP
5.90 19-4¼ ..... 2)GP Final
[nh)Zür, 3)Eur Ch, nh)Bruss]

7. RIAAN BOTHA (SA)
(11/8/70, 6-1¼/176)
5.85(A) 19-2¼ ..... 2)SAfr Ch
5.70 18-8¼ ..... 8)Nice GP
5.70 18-8¼ . 3)Monaco GP
5.80 19-¼ ..... 2)Zürich GP
[5)GPF, 5)W Cup, 1)Comm]

8. PAT MANSON (US)
(11/29/67, 5-10/159)
5.81i(A) 19-¾ .... 1)AF Academy
5.75 18-10¼ ..... 2)USATF
5.80 19-¼ ..... 5)Zürich GP
5.75 18-10¼ .... 4)Laus GP
[5)Bruss, 7)Berl, 6)GPF]

9. LAWRENCE JOHNSON (US)
(5/7/74, 6-0/183)
5.75 18-10¼ .. 6)Rome GP
5.70 18-8¼ 6)Lausanne GP
5.80 19-¼ .. 4)Brussels GP
5.80 19-¼ ..... 1)Rieti GP
[nh)US, 12)Mon, 4)Berlin]

10. VADIM STROGALYOV (Rus)
(2/9/75, 6-½/165)
5.80i 19-¼ ..... 2)Stuttgart
5.80i 19-¼ ..... 2)Tampere
5.85 19-2¼ ..... 2)Chaniá
5.80 19-¼ ..... 3)Zürich GP
[5)Mon, 8)Bruss, 8)GPF]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Jeff Hartwig *
2. Pat Manson *
3. Lawrence Johnson *
4. Dean Starkey
[2)EugGP, 3)US, 5)Good]
5. Scott Huffman
[5)EugGP, nh)US, 4)Linz]
6. Scott Hennig
[1)US Ind, 3)EugGP, nh)US]
7. Bill Deering
[5)US Ind, 4)US, 4)Good]
8. Tim Mack
[7)Reno, 1)SeaR, 1)Knox]
9. Scott Slover
[6)US Ind, 1)P10, 3)NC]
10. Kurt Hanna
[6)Reno, 1)BRou, 2)US Ind]

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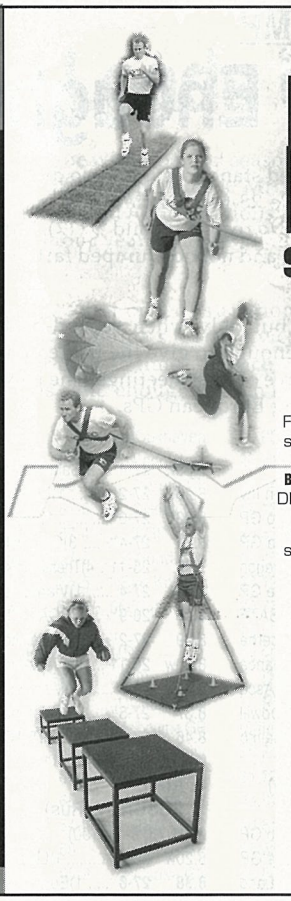
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THE 1998 FALL CREW ADDITIONS

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(SPORTS FANS, I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU WE WON'T STOP)

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LONG JUMP

Pedroso Far Enough

NUMBER ONE: By his normally elevated standards, Pedroso didn't have much of a year in '98, cracking the 28-foot barrier only once. Compare that to his other No. 1 years, '95 (a record 13) and '97 (7). But a win is a win, no matter how far you go, and nobody jumped farther than Pedroso in any meet.

BECKFORD DID BEAT PEDROSO, but only when second-best jumps were counted. That win wasn't enough to give the list leader No. 2, though, as he lost to Walder in three of four meetings. The lack of GP status meant no jumping in the big European GPs.

1. IVÁN PEDROSO (Cub)
(12/17/72, 5-9¼/154)
8.29i 27-2½ ..... 1)Erfurt
7.92i 26-0 ..... 1)Gent
8.21 26-11¼ ..... 1)Barr M
8.41 27-7¼ ..... 1)Padua
8.20 26-11 ..... 1)Prague
8.35 27-4¾ ..... 1)Ostrava
8.30 27-2¾ ..... 1)Turin
8.42 27-7½ ..... 1)Linz GP
8.30 27-2¾ ..... 1)Zagreb
8.51 27-11 .. 1)Vill-d'Ascq
8.54 28-¼ ..... 1)Goodwill
8.05 26-5 ..... 1)Cub Ch
8.33 27-4 ..... 2)Viareggio
8.45 27-8¾ ..... 1)CAC Ch
8.37(A) 27-5½ . 1)World Cup

2. ERICK WALDER (US)
(11/5/71, 6-1¼/170)
7.97 26-1¾ ... 1)Tyson Inv
8.34 27-4½ ..... 1)Rio GP
8.24 27-½ ..... 2)Doha GP
7.80 25-7¼ . 1)adi/Oregon
8.26 27-1¼ . 1)Seville GP
8.26w 27-1¼ .....2)USATF
8.22 26-11¾ ... 1)Lucerne
8.54w 28-¼ .. 1)Salamanca
8.48 27-10 .. 2)Vill-d'Ascq
8.38 27-6 ..... 2)Goodwill
8.05 26-5 ..... 1)Malmö

3. JAMES BECKFORD (Jam)
(1/9/75, 6-0/161)
8.21 26-11¼ ..... 3)Rio GP
8.36 27-5¼ ... 1)Doha GP
8.60 28-2¾ ... 1)Bad Lang
8.19 26-10½ .... 2)Ostrava
8.36 27-5¼ ..... 1)Jam Ch
8.33w 27-4 ... 2)Salamanca
8.28 27-2 ..... 1)Formia
8.23 27-0 ..... 1)Visby
7.90 25-11 . 4)Thessaloníki
8.33 27-4 ..... 1)Viareggio
8.16 26-9¼ ..... 2)CAC Ch
8.29 27-2½ .... 1)Rovereto
8.20w 26-11 ... 1)Avezzano
8.61w 28-3 ..... 1)Marrubiu
8.37 27-5½ ..... 1)Oristano
8.46 27-9¼ ..... 1)TOTO
[27-1¾, 26-11¼i, 26-11]

4. KIRIL SOSUNOV (Rus)
(11/1/75, 6-4¾/190)
8.20w 26-11 ..... 1)Lisbon
8.38 27-6 ..... 1)Euro Cup
8.09 26-6½ ..... 3)Lucerne
8.17 26-9¾ . 3)Salamanca
8.28 27-2 ..... 1)Euro Ch
8.08(A) 26-6¼ .... 4)World Cup
[2)RussInd, 5)Doha, 7)Good]

5. ROLAND McGHEE (US)
(10/15/71, 5-11/53)
8.11i 26-7¼ ..... 1)USA Ind
8.02 26-3¾ .. 1)Raleigh R
8.20 26-11 .. 1)Sea Ray R
8.10 26-7 ..... 4)Rio GP
8.21w 26-11¼ .. 1)Modesto
8.09 26-6½ .... 1)Clemson
8.28 27-2 .....1)USATF
8.40 27-6¾ . 3)Vill-d'Ascq
7.79(A) 25-6¾ . 5)World Cup
[26-41/4l, 26-21/4l, 26-¼i]

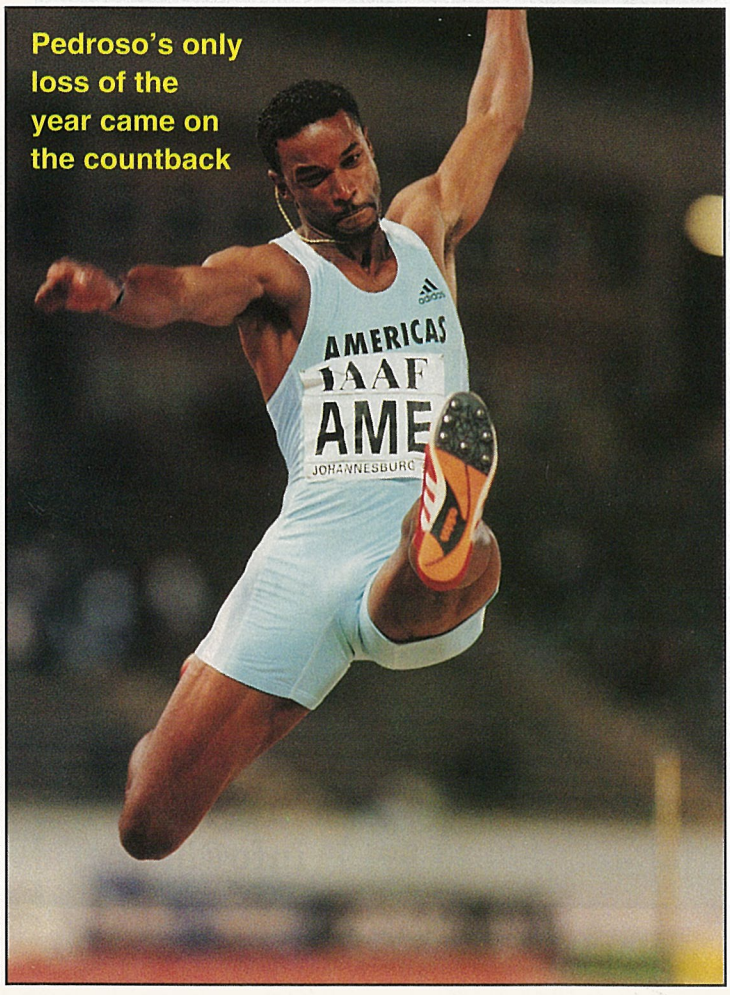
6. JAI TAURIMA (Aus)
(6/26/72, 6-2¾/165)
8.03 26-4¼1)Melbourne GP
8.14 26-8½ ..... 1)Sydney
8.32(A) 27-3¾ . 2)World Cup
8.22 26-11¾ .. 2)Comm G
[2)Aus Ch, 4)Doha, 4)Linz]

7. CHEIKH TOURÉ (Sen)
(1/25/70, 6-1½/185)
8.25 27-¾ ..... 2)Rio GP
8.18 26-10 ..... 1)Kassel
8.23 27-0 ..... 2)Turin
8.27w 27-1¾ . 4)Vill-d'Ascq
[1)Joburg, 3)Doha, 4)Malmö]

8. HATEM HASSINE (Egy)
(1975)
8.15 26-9 ..... 3)Padua
8.17w 26-9¾ ..... 2)Formia
8.13 26-8¼ ..... 1)Afr Ch
8.26(A) 27-1¼ . 3)World Cup
[26-2¾, 26-1½]

9. PETER BURGE (Aus)
(7/3/74)
8.10w 26-7 ..... 1)Perth
7.96 26-1½ 2)Melbourne GP
8.20 26-11 ..... 1)Darwin
8.22 26-11¾ .. 1)Comm G
[26-5, 26-5, 25-10¾]

10. SEAN ROBBINS (US)
(10/9/72, 6-2/185)
7.92i 26-0 ... 2)USATF Ind
7.97 26-1¾ ..... 4)USATF
8.05 26-5 ..... 3)Linz GP
8.33 27-4 ..... 4)Goodwill
[5)Rio, 3)Zagreb, 2)Malmö]



Pedroso's only loss of the year came on the countback

CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Erick Walder *
2. Roland McGhee *
3. Sean Robbins *
4. Kevin Dilworth
[4)US In, 3)USA, 5)Good]
5. Kar. Streete-Thompson
[1)SAC, 5)USA, 2)Lucer]
6. Tim Bryant
[2)F-de-Fr, 3)Prag, 6)US]
7. Joe Greene
[1)Owens, 7)USA]
8. Bashir Yamini
[1)NC In, 3)NC, 11)USA]
9. Robert Howard
[4)NC In, 1)NC, 12)USA]
10. Melvin Lister
[1)JC Ind, 1)JC, nm)US]

TRIPLE

Edwards Over

NUMBER ONE: Injury cut Edwards' season well short, but even though he missed the GP Final, there was no doubt about his claim to the top spot. The WR holder dominated the performances list (8 of the year's 10 farthest) and claimed 7 GP wins.

KAPUSTIN CLAIMED 5 GP wins of his own, and an 8–5 overall record against GP winner Friedek gave him the runner-up position.

EDWARDS' THIRD WIN made him only the sixth ever to turn that feat.

1. JONATHAN EDWARDS (GB)
(5/10/66, 5-11¼/154)
17.26i 56-7½ ..... 1)Stange
17.23i 56-6½ .... 1)Tampere
17.64i 57-10½ 1)Birmingham
17.43i 57-2¼ ..... 1)Euro Ind
16.22i 53-2¾ ... 2)Maebashi
17.37(A) 57-0 .... 1)Pietersburg
16.96w 55-7¾ ..... 1)Leeds
17.04 55-11 . 1)Helsinki GP
17.22 56-6 ..... 1)Tallinn
17.29 56-8¾ ... 1)Euro Cup
18.01 59-1¼ ..... 1)Oslo GP
17.60 57-9 ..... 1)Rome GP
17.18 56-4½ .. 1)Gates GP
17.65 57-11 ..... 1)Goodwill
17.12 56-2 ..... 1)GB Ch
17.14 56-2¾ .... 1)Sheff GP
16.99 55-9 ..... 1)Stock GP
nm .... –)Monaco GP
17.75 58-3 ..... 1)Zürich GP
17.99 59-¼ ..... 1)Euro Ch
17.00 55-9¼ .... 2)Laus GP

2. DENIS KAPUSTIN (Rus)
(10/5/70, 6-2¼/190)
16.88 55-4¾ . 2)Seville GP
17.12 56-2 . 1)Hengelo GP
17.21 56-5¾ 1)St.-Denis GP
17.65 57-11 ..... 2)Oslo GP
17.01 55-9¾ .. 4)Rome GP
16.96 55-7¾ .... 2)Sheff GP
16.98 55-8½ ... 2)Stock GP
17.39 57-¾ . 1)Monaco GP
16.97 55-8¼ .. 4)Zürich GP
17.45 57-3 ..... 2)Euro Ch
16.70 54-9½ .... 6)Laus GP
17.00 55-9¼ ... 1)Bruss GP
17.15 56-3¼ ... 1)Berlin GP
17.01 55-9¾ .... 2)GP Final
17.32(A) 56-10 ..... 2)World Cup
[56-6¾i, 55-11¾i, 55-8¼]

3. CHARLES FRIEDEK (Ger)
(8/26/71, 5-11½/163)
17.27 56-8 ..... 1)Ger Ch
17.38 57-¼ ..... 3)Oslo GP
17.14 56-2¾ .. 3)Rome GP
17.04 55-11 ..... 6)Euro Ch
17.07 56-0 ..... 1)Laus GP
16.90 55-5½2)Brussels GP
17.01 55-9¾ ... 4)Berlin GP
17.33 56-10¼ .. 1)GP Final
17.42(A)57-2 ..... 1)World Cup
[6)St-Den, 10)Mon, 9)Zürich]

4. ALEKSANDR GLOVATSKIY (Blr)
(5/2/70, 6-¾/159)
17.39 57-¾ ..... 1)Blr Ch
17.24 56-6¾ .. 2)Rome GP
16.96 55-7¾ . 5)Monaco GP
17.53 57-6¼ .. 2)Zürich GP
17.22 56-6 ..... 4)Euro Ch
16.80 55-1½ .... 4)Laus GP
16.52 54-2½ ... 3)Bruss GP
17.09 56-1 ..... 2)Berlin GP
16.98 55-8½ .... 3)GP Final

5. YOELBI QUESADA (Cub)
(8/4/73, 5-10¼/161)
17.25i 56-7¼ ..... 1)Stuttgart
17.20i 56-5¼ . 2)Birmingham
17.43i 57-2¼ . 1)Sindelfingen
17.19 56-4¾ ..... 1)Barr M
18.18 56-4½ ..... 1)Turin
17.11 56-1¾ 3)St.-Den GP
16.85 55-3½ .. 6)Rome GP
17.27 56-8 ..... 2)Goodwill
17.07 56-0 .. 3)Monaco GP
16.90 55-5½ .. 5)Zürich GP
16.57 54-4½ .... 4)GP Final
17.25(A) 56-7¼ .... 3)World Cup
[10)Oslo, 3)Laus, 8)Bruss]

6. LaMARK CARTER (US)
(8/23/70, 5-11/165)
17.30w 56-9¼ ..... 1)Houston
17.44 57-2¾ ..... 1)USATF
16.83 55-2¾ ..... 6)Oslo GP
16.20 53-1¾ 10)Rome GP
17.07 56-0 ..... 3)Goodwill
16.64 54-7¼ ..... 5)Sheff GP
16.71 54-10 .... 3)Stock GP
17.10 56-1¼ . 2)Monaco GP
17.30 56-9¼ .. 3)Zürich GP
16.61 54-6 . 7)Lausanne GP
16.52 54-2½ . 4)Brussels GP
16.56 54-4 ..... 5)Berlin GP
16.57 54-4½ .... 5)GP Final
17.20(A) 56-5¼ .... 5)World Cup
[56-7½i, 56-5¼i, 56-½]

7. ANDREW OWUSU (Gha)
(7/8/72, 5-10¾/165)
17.08 56-½ .. 4)St.-Denis GP
17.23 56-6½ ..... 1)Afr Ch
17.21(A) 56-5¾ .... 4)World Cup
17.03 55-10½ .. 2)Comm G
[6)Zürich, 7)Berlin, 6)GPF]

8. JEROME ROMAIN (Dmn)

JUMP

59 Again

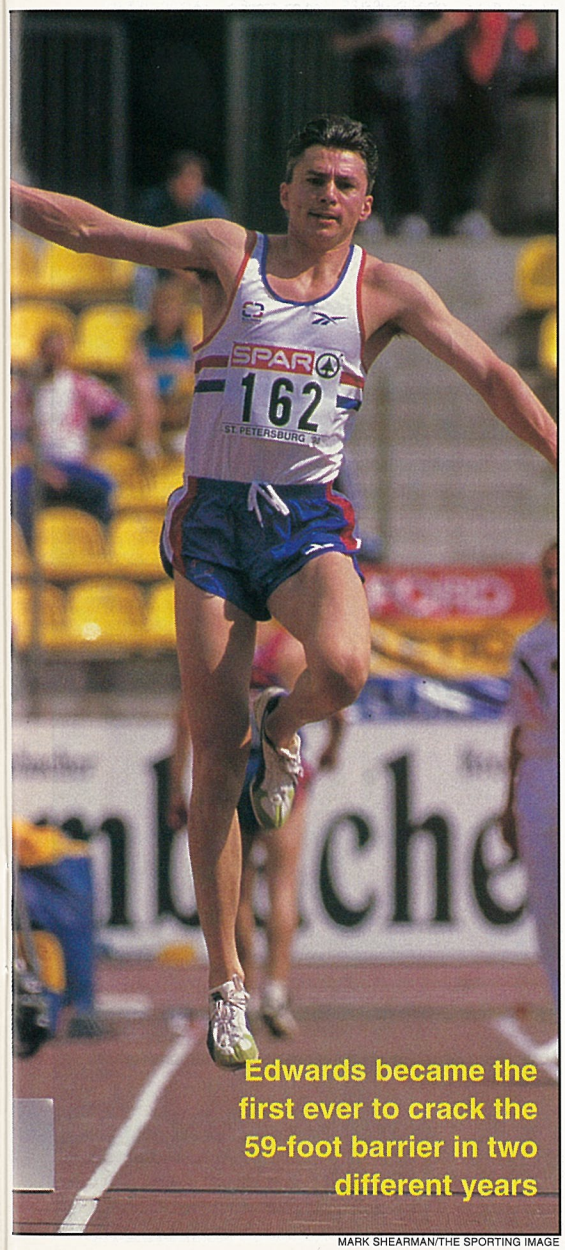
(1/12/71, 6-0/168)
17.03i 55-10½ . 2)Budapest
17.18w 56-4½ ... 1)Tyson Inv
17.01 55-9¾ .. 5)Rome GP
16.84 55-3 ..... 6)Goodwill
[8)Zürich, 5)Bruss, 7)GPF]

9. ZSOLT CZINGLER (Hun)
(4/28/71, 6-1½/159)
17.24 56-6¾ ..... 2)Tivoli
17.20 56-5¼ ..... 1)Dresden
17.07 56-0 .. 4)Monaco GP
16.80 55-1½ .. 7)Zürich GP
[7)EurCh, 8)Berlin, 9)GPF]

10. VASILIY SOKOV (Rus)
(4/7/68, 6-1¼/161)
16.93i 55-6½ .... 1)Russ Ind
16.89 55-5 ..... 2)Moscow
17.04 55-11 ..... 1)Rus Ch
17.16w 56-3¾ ..... 5)Euro Ch
[54-10¾, 52-9½, 55-2¾w]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **LaMark Carter** *
2. **Robert Howard** [1)NC, 2)USA, 5)Good]
3. **Von Ware** [1)US In, 3)US, 4)Good]
4. **Kenny Harrison** [2)Heng, 8)Good, 3)Leverk]
5. **Leonard Cobb** [1)TxR, 1)TxInv, 4)USA]
6. **Antoine Howard** [4)GaT, 5)US, 6)Leverk]
7. **Robert Johnson** [1)Raleigh, 5)GaT, 6)US]
8. **Jonathan Jordan** [3)SAC, 1)NC II, 7)US]
9. **LeVar Anderson** [4)NC In, 2)NC, 11)US]
10. **Joseph Taiwo** [2)Modes, 1)Seattle, 8)US]



Edwards became the first ever to crack the 59-foot barrier in two different years

MARK SHEARMAN/THE SPORTING IMAGE

SHOT

Godina Leads U.S.

NUMBER ONE: You can't argue with a perfect season, and that's just what Godina had, winning all 17 of his meets. Mr. Consistency, he cracked the 70-foot barrier in all but 6 competitions and on his worst day still reached 69-7. In his four years in the Rankings, Godina has now gone 1-2-1-1.

LED BY GODINA, U.S. putters dominated as a nation, capturing half the ranking spots. Hunter was Godina's favorite victim on the year, losing to the leader no fewer than 11 times. Bagach had a bad day at the GP Final, but overall was solid enough to earn runner-up status.

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **John Godina** *
2. **C.J. Hunter** *
3. **Kevin Toth** *
4. **Adam Nelson** *
5. **Gregg Tafralis** *
6. **Andy Bloom** [3)USi, 5)EugGP, 3)JJK]
7. **Jim Doehring** [1)LB, 4)Osaka, 6)US]
8. **Brian Miller** [4)US In, 9)US, 7)JJK]
9. **Steve Albert** [6)US In, 7)US, 8)JJK]
10. **Dwight Johnson** [3)SAC, 4)EugGP, 7)Hels]

1. JOHN GODINA (US)
(5/31/72, 6-4/260)
21.28i 69-9¾ ..... 1)LA Inv
21.71i 71-2¾ . 1)AF Academy
21.30i 69-10¾ ... 1)USA Ind
21.77i 71-5¼ ... 1)Maebashi
21.78 71-5½ ..... 1)Mt. SAC
21.59 70-10 .. 1)Westwood
21.61 70-10¾ 1)Osaka GP
21.58 70-9¾ ..... 1)Salinas
21.22 69-7½ 1)Eugene GP
21.71 71-2¾ ..... 1)USATF
21.55 70-8½ ..... 1)Linz GP
21.45 70-4½ .... 1)Goodwill
21.30 69-10¾ .... 1)JJK GP
21.51 70-7 ..... 1)Paris GP
21.23 69-8 ..... 1)v GB
21.21 69-7 ..... 1)GP Final
21.48 70-5¾ . 1)World Cup

2. ALEKSANDR BAGACH (Ukr)
(11/21/66, 6-4¼/298)
19.74i 64-9¼ .... 2)Tampere
19.89i 65-3¼ ..... 8)Euro Ind
19.24i 63-1½ ... 3)Maebashi
20.85 68-5 ..... 1)Kiev
20.54 67-4¾ ..... 1)Kiev
20.42 67-0 ..... 1)Budapest
20.62 67-8 1)Bratislava GP
20.06 65-9¾ ..... 1)Tartu
20.23 66-4½ 2)Helsinki GP
20.34 66-8¾ ..... 2)Linz GP
20.38 66-10½ 2)Rome GP
21.00 68-10¾ ..... 1)Ukr Ch
21.17 69-5½ ..... 1)Euro Ch
20.63 67-8¼ .. 2)Rüdlingen
20.77 68-1¾ ..... 1)Rieti GP
20.21 66-3¾ .... 5)GP Final
20.45 67-1¼ . 2)World Cup

3. OLIVER-SVEN BUDER (Ger)
(6/23/66, 6-6¾/287)
20.91i 68-7¼ ... 1)Chemnitz
21.16i 69-5¼ ..... 1)Erfurt
21.06i 69-1¼ ..... 1)Ger Ind
21.12i 69-3½ ..... 1)Sassnitz
21.47i 70-5¼ ..... 1)Euro Ind
20.85 68-5 ..... 1)Doha GP
20.34 66-8¾ .. 2)Osaka GP
20.19 66-3 ..... 1)Halle
20.71 67-11½ 1)Hengelo GP
20.58 67-6¼ .. 1)Dortmund
20.41 66-11½ 2)Bratislav GP
19.97 65-6¼ ... 2)Euro Cup
20.15 66-1½ ..... 1)Ger Ch
19.51 64-¼ ..... 7)Linz GP
20.09 65-11 ..... 1)Gotha
20.26 66-5¾ .... 3)Rome GP
20.66 67-9½ .. 1)Cuxhaven
20.42 67-0 ..... 1)Ingolstadt
20.98 68-10 ..... 2)Euro Ch
20.57 67-6 ..... 2)Rieti GP
20.53 67-4¼ .... 3)GP Final
20.42 67-0 .... 3)World Cup
20.24 66-5 .. 1)Bad Köstritz
[66-10, 66-8½, 66-7¼]

4. C.J. HUNTER (US)
(12/14/68, 6-1¼/298)
19.58i 64-3 .... 1)Chapel Hill
19.82 65-½ 1)Melbourne GP
19.90 65-3½ ..... 1)Sydney
20.72i 67-11¾ . 2)Maebashi
19.97 65-6¼ .. 1)Raleigh R
19.66 64-6 ..... 2)Mt. SAC
20.74 68-½ ..... 2)Rio GP
20.04 65-9 ..... 3)Osaka GP
19.36 63-6¼ .. 1)GaT/Reeb
20.56 67-5½ 2)Eugene GP
20.08 65-10½ ..... 1)Padua
19.84 65-1¼ 5)Helsinki GP
20.84 68-4½ ..... 2)USATF
20.52 67-4 ..... 2)Turku
20.19 66-3 . 3)Hämeenkyrö
19.03 62-5¼ ... 11)Linz GP
20.00 65-7½ .. 4)Rome GP
20.79 68-2½ .... 2)Goodwill
20.73 68-¼ ..... 2)JJK GP
20.49 67-2¾ .... 3)Paris GP
20.11 65-11¾ ..... 1)Malmö
20.66 67-9½ ..... 2)v GB
20.34 66-8¾ .... 4)GP Final

5. YURIY BELONOG (Ukr)
(3/9/74, 6-6¾/249)
19.09i 62-7¾ ..... 1)Stange
19.28 63-3¼ ... 7)Doha GP
19.18 62-11¼ ..... 4)Kiev
19.20 63-0 ..... 3)Kalamata
19.42 63-8¾ . 7)Hengelo GP
nm .....–)Bratislava GP
19.91 65-4 .. 4)Helsinki GP
19.69 64-7¼ ..... 5)Linz GP
19.73 64-8¾ .. 7)Rome GP
20.26 66-5¾ .... 4)Goodwill
20.29 66-7 ..... 4)JJK GP
20.28 66-6½ .... 4)Paris GP
20.60 67-7 ..... 2)Ukr Ch
20.92 68-7¾ ..... 3)Euro Ch
20.68 67-10¼ . 1)Rüdlingen
20.25 66-5¼ ..... 4)Rieti GP
20.62 67-8 ..... 2)GP Final

6. KEVIN TOTH (US)
(12/29/67, 6-4/280)
21.10i 69-2¾ ..... 1)Kent
20.83i 68-4¼ ..... 2)USA Ind
20.95 68-8¾ ..... 1)Rio GP
20.84 68-4½ ... 2)Doha GP
19.84 65-1¼ ..... 5)USATF
19.18 62-11¼ ... 9)Linz GP
20.63 67-8¼ .. 1)Rome GP
19.45 63-9¾ .... 7)Goodwill
20.12 66-¼ ..... 5)JJK GP
20.75 68-1 ..... 2)Paris GP
19.52 64-½ .... 7)Rüdlingen
19.90 65-3½ .... 6)GP Final

7. DRAGAN PERIC (Yug)
(5/8/64, 6-1¼/236)
20.21i 66-3¾ ..... 4)Euro Ind
21.77 71-5¼ ..... 1)Bar
20.89 68-6½ ..... 1)Senta
20.87 68-5¾ ..... 1)Chaniá
20.68 67-10¼ .... 1)Yug Ch
20.65 67-9 ..... 4)Euro Ch
[68-3¼, 67-7½, 67-4¾]

8. MIKA HALVARI (Fin)
(2/13/70, 6-2¾/309)
20.68i 67-10¼ . 1)Mustasaari
20.78i 68-2¼ ..... 1)Fin Ind
20.58 67-6¼ 1)Helsinki GP
20.66 67-9½ .... 1)Lapinlahti
20.79 68-2½ ... 1)Euro Cup
20.79 68-2½ . 2)Hämeenkyrö
[8)Rome, 5)Paris, 6)Euro Ch]

9. ADAM NELSON (US)
(7/7/75, 6-0/250)
19.86i 65-2 ..... 2)NCAA Ind
20.35 66-9¼ ..... 3)USATF
20.39 66-10¾ .. 3)Goodwill
20.61 67-7½ .. 3)Rüdlingen
[4)Millr, 2)Modes, nm)JJK]

10. GREGG TAFRALIS (US)
(4/9/58, 6-0/285)
20.03 65-8¾ ..... 4)USATF
20.72 67-11¾ .... 1)L Gatos
20.23 66-4½ .... 5)Goodwill
19.87 65-2¼ ..... 6)JJK GP
[66-8, 62-9¼, 60-8½]

Godina Climbing As Doubler

In more than 50 years of our World Rankings, only 10 men have been able to earn a spot in both the shot and discus in the same year. John Godina joined that elite club in '95 with a 1/9 finish, improved to 1/4 in '97, and with his shot No. 1 and discus No. 3 this year equaled the second-best combo ever.

The king of doubling is former shot WR holder Parry O'Brien, who not only did it 9 times ('52, '53, '54, '55, '56, '57, '59, '61, '62), but also had the best combo ever, 2/1 in '57.

Other members of the club: Jim Fuchs ('49, '50, '51), Fortune Gordien ('47), Otto Grigalka ('52, '53, '55), Heino Lipp ('47, '48), Randy Matson ('65, '66, '67), Roland Nilsson ('52, '53), Wolfgang Schmidt ('78), Jay Silvester ('61, '65) and Mac Wilkins ('77).

As an all-around thrower, "Multiple Mac" Wilkins remains the all-time king. In addition to his shot and discus rankings, he also made the U.S. Rankings in the hammer, and advanced to the NCAA javelin final as a frosh.

DISCUS

Alekna At The End

NUMBER ONE: As in '97, Alekna started off by beating Riedel in 2 of their first 3 meetings. But unlike last year, when Riedel won 7 of the last 8, Alekna won 3 of 5. After Riedel won the European title, it looked as if he might have his fifth No. 1, but this was one event where the World Cup really had an impact, as the eventual top 3 were all there. Alekna's win in South Africa gave him the edge.

THE CHOICE FOR TOP AMERICAN wasn't cut-and-dried, as Setliff had the better European campaign, but couldn't quite overcome his loss to Godina at the nationals.

1. VIRGILIJUS ALEKNA (Lit)
(2/13/72, 6-6$^{3}/_{4}$/265)

64.68	212-2	1)N Shore City
64.98	213-2	1)NZ Ch
64.26	210-10	1)L'al del Pi
68.86	225-11	1)Halle
63.16	207-3	2)Chemnitz
66.76	219-0	1)Cottbus
65.19	213-10	1)Dortmund
67.14	220-3	1)Tartu
66.69	218-9	1)Vill-d'Ascq
66.43	217-11	1)Stuttgart
67.85	222-7	2)Zürich GP
66.46	218-0	3)Euro Ch
67.84	222-7	1)Berlin GP
69.66	**228-6**	1)World Cup

2. LARS RIEDEL (Ger)
(6/28/67, 6-6$^{1}/_{4}$/243)

66.60	218-6	1)Wiesbaden
66.34	217-8	3)Halle
64.71	212-3	1)Arnsberg
65.22	214-0	1)Chemnitz
65.95	216-4	1)Jena
65.02	213-4	1)Lisbon
65.10	213-7	4)Bellinzona
65.42	214-7	1)Ger Ch
65.59	215-2	1)Nuremberg
67.90	222-9	1)Zürich GP
67.07	220-0	1)Euro Ch
66.08	216-9	1)Troisdorf
67.71	222-1	1)Stendal
67.35	220-11	2)Berlin GP
67.47	221-4	2)World Cup
68.21	**223-9**	1)Bad Köstritz

[214-8, 213-2, 209-11, 209-11]

3. JOHN GODINA (US)
(5/31/72, 6-4/260)

66.55	218-4	2)La Jolla
64.90	212-11	1)Antelope V
66.47	218-1	1)Mt. SAC
67.18	220-5	1)Westwood
69.91	**229-4**	1)Salinas
69.18	227-0	2)S Diego
67.09	220-1	1)USATF
67.43	221-2	1)Bellinzona
63.91	209-8	2)Vill-d'Ascq
62.84	206-2	3)Goodwill
60.08	197-1	3)v GB
65.15	213-9	4)World Cup

4. ADAM SETLIFF (US)
(12/15/69, 6-3/275)

68.45	**224-7**	1)La Jolla
68.12	223-6	3)S Diego
66.43	217-11	2)USATF
62.40	204-9	4)Zagreb
65.42	214-7	2)Nuremberg
65.45	214-8	2)Stuttgart
65.88	216-2	4)Zürich GP
65.27	214-1	1)Rüdlingen
63.53	208-5	1)v GB
64.33	211-0	3)Berlin GP

5. JÜRGEN SCHULT (Ger)
(5/11/60, 6-4/243)

65.88	216-2	4)Halle
65.54	215-0	1)Lisbon
64.37	211-2	2)Euro Cup
63.58	208-7	2)Ger Ch
65.96	216-5	3)Zürich GP
66.69	**218-9**	2)Euro Ch
64.65	212-1	2)Troisdorf
64.82	212-8	2)Stendal
64.20	210-7	4)Berlin GP
62.90	206-4	2)Bad Kostritz

[211-5, 208-9, 208-4, 208-3]

6. RÓBERT FAZEKAS (Hun)
(8/18/75, 6-3$^{1}/_{2}$/198)

66.10	216-10	1)Szombath
65.68	215-6	5)Zürich GP
65.13	213-8	4)Euro Ch
66.61	**218-6**	1)Szombath

[212-3, 211-10, 211-7, 210-2]

7. DMITRIY SHEVCHENKO (Rus)
(5/13/68, 6-6/265)

62.56	205-3	1)Sochi
65.14	**213-8**	1)Euro Cup
64.81	212-7	1)Goodwill
61.44	201-7	7)Zürich GP

8. FRANTZ KRUGER (SA)
(5/22/75, 6-8/260)

65.36	214-5	1)Pietersburg
64.19	210-7	4)Stuttgart
65.73	**215-7**	3)World Cup
63.93	209-9	2)Comm G

[207-8, 207-0, 206-6, 203-11]

9. ANTHONY WASHINGTON (US)
(1/16/66, 6-1$^{1}/_{4}$/240)

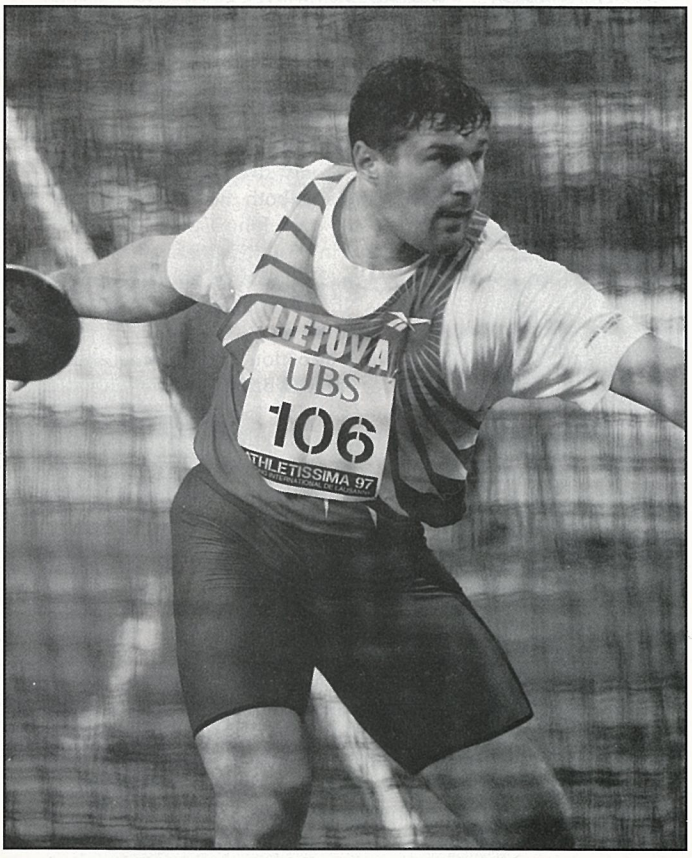
62.79	206-0	3)La Jolla
64.18	210-7	1)Tempe
61.22	200-10	2)L Beach
68.38	224-4	1)Tucson
69.79	**228-11**	1)S Diego

10. ANDY BLOOM (US)
(8/11/73, 6-0/258)

66.14	217-0	4)S Diego
66.42	**217-11**	3)USATF
63.91	209-8	5)Vill-d'Ascq
63.97	209-10	2)Goodwill

[7)Zagreb, 6)Zürich, 2)Rüdling]

Alekna sewed up No. 1 with a World Cup win at 228-6, the farthest throw ever in a major championship.



U.S. RANKINGS

1. John Godina *
2. Adam Setliff *
3. Anthony Washington *
4. Andy Bloom *
5. Carl Brown [6)SDi, 4)US, 9)Good]
6. Casey Malone [1)NC, 5)US, 6)Good]
7. Ian Waltz [4)SAC, 3)NC, 8)US]
8. Ben Lindsey [3)P-10, 5)NC, 6)US]
9. Doug Reynolds [1)P-10, 16)NC, 7)US]
10. Kevin Fitzpatrick [1)Modes, 5)SDi, nm)US]

HAMMER

Hungarians

NUMBER ONE: This was one of those rare situations where one athlete dominated another in their head-to-head meetings, but the dominator ended up as No. 2. Kiss beat Gécsek by a solid 7–2 score, but the latter got his two wins at the most crucial points in the season, winning the European Championships and GP Final. Gécsek also had the year's best sequence of marks and just narrowly edges his countryman.

HUNGARY GOT ITS FIRST 1–2 finish ever, and added Annus in 8 to become the highest-scoring nation for the first time since '53.

1. TIBOR GÉCSEK (Hun)
(9/22/64, 6-$^{1}/_{2}$/220)

74.40	244-1	1)Szombathely
77.08	252-11	1)Szombathely
76.94	252-5	1)Szombathely
77.16	253-2	1)Veszprém
77.04	252-9	1)Szombathely
79.30	260-2	1)Szombathely
80.37	263-8	2)Szombathely
80.37	263-8	1)Neulussheim
80.62	264-6	2)Seville GP
81.14	266-2	2)St.-Denis GP
79.30	260-2	1)Budapest

Gécsek only beat Kiss twice in nine tries, but that was just enough.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE photos

THROW

Score 1–2

79.64 261-3 ..... 3)Turin
78.98 259-1 .... 4)Budapest
80.88 265-4 ..... 2)Hun Ch
79.26 260-0 ..... 2)Formia
81.44 267-2 ..... 2)Nice GP
76.79 251-11 ..... 3)JJK GP
82.87 271-10 .... 1)Euro Ch
81.66 267-11 ..... 1)Nitra
81.21 266-5 ..... 1)GP Final
82.68 271-3 .. 1)World Cup
83.68 274-6 . 1)Zalaegerszeg
79.85 261-11 .. 1)Budapest

2. BÁLAZS KISS (Hun)
(3/21/72, 6-2 3/4/243)
79.41 260-6 ..... 1)Mt. SAC
81.01 265-9 ... 1)Osaka GP
81.67 267-11 1)Seville GP
83.00 272-4 .. 1)St.-Denis GP
80.53 264-2 ... 2)Dortmund
80.53 264-2 ..... 2)Turin
79.39 260-5 .... 3)Budapest
81.18 266-4 ..... 1)Hun Ch
80.39 263-9 ..... 1)Formia
82.13 269-5 ..... 1)Nice GP
81.12 266-2 ... 1)Barcelona
82.10 269-4 ... 1)Veszprém
81.26 266-7 ..... 2)Euro Ch
79.74 261-7 .... 2)Berlin GP
79.71 261-6 ..... 2)GP Final
81.74 268-2 ... 1)Veszprém
79.64 261-3 ..... 1)TOTO
[256-11, 256-4, 256-1]]

3. HEINZ WEIS (Ger)
(7/14/63, 6-4/243)
78.82 258-7 ...2)Osaka GP
81.11 266-1 ..... 1)Cottbus
79.80 261-10 4)Seville GP
80.23 263-2 .. 3)St.-Denis GP
80.34 263-7 ..... 1)Bonn
79.68 261-5 .... 1)Euro Cup
79.74 261-7 ..... 1)Ger Ch
80.38 263-8 ... 2)Barcelona
80.04 262-7 ..... 4)Euro Ch
78.97 259-1 ... 3)Rüdlingen
80.82 265-2 .... 1)Berlin GP
77.03 252-8 ..... 7)GP Final

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Lance Deal *
2. Kevin McMahon
[2)SAC, 3)USA, 5)Good]
3. Jud Logan
[2)USA, 6)Good, 6)WCp]
4. Travis Nutter
[6)NC, 4) USA, 7)Good]
5. Adam Connolly
[1)Cal/Nv, 5)NC, 5)USA]
6. Scott McGee
[1)Monm, 5)Eugene, 6)US]
7. Dan Bourque
[2)PennR, 1)NC II, 7)US]
8. Justin Strand
[3)Modes, 5)Pac-10, 8)NC]
9. Kevin Mannon
[3)TxR, 11)NC, 8)USA]
10. Scott Sargeant
[5)SAC, 9)US, 1)LBeach]

80.13 262-10 2)World Cup
81.27 266-7 .. 1)Bad Köstritz
[265-3, 264-7, 264-4]

4. ANDREY ABDUVALIYEV (Uzb)
(6/30/66, 6-1/2/247)
78.66 258-1 .. 6)Seville GP
78.71 258-3 .. 4)St.-Denis GP
80.70 264-9 ..... 1)Turin
79.57 261-0 ..... 4)Nice GP
78.30 256-11 ... 3)GP Final
79.40 260-6 .. 3)World Cup
79.55 261-0 ..... 2)TOTO
[259-7, 255-10, 251-6]

5. IGOR ASTAPKOVICH (Blr)
(1/4/63, 6-3 1/4/260)
80.43 263-10 3)Seville GP
78.59 257-10 5)St.-Denis GP
83.62 274-4 ..... 1)Minsk
79.78 261-9 ..... 3)Nice GP
77.81 255-3 ..... 7)Euro Ch
79.55 261-0 ... 1)Rüdlingen
78.02 256-0 ..... 4)GP Final
[262-1, 259-3, 253-11]

6. VASILIY SIDORENKO (Rus)
(5/1/61, 6-1 1/2/234)
78.45 257-46)St.-Denis GP
80.26 263-4 .... 1)Budapest
80.89 265-4 ..... 1)Goodwill
78.78 258-5 ..... 1)JJK GP
[nq)Euro Ch, 4)Berlin, 8)GPF]

7. KARSTEN KOBS (Ger)
(9/16/71, 6-5/240)
79.44 260-7 ... 1)Rehlingen
80.10 262-9 ... 3)Dortmund
81.21 266-5 ... 1)Dortmund
80.13 262-10 .... 3)Euro Ch
78.74 258-4 ... 4)Rüdlingen
[8)Seville, 2)Ger Ch, 8)Berlin GP]

8. ADRIÁN ANNUS (Hun)
(6/28/73, 6-4 1/4/225)
81.22 266-6 1)Szombathely
80.52 264-2 .... 1)Budapest
81.01 265-9 .. 1)Szombathely
85.85 281-8 .... 2)Budapest
[5)Hun Ch, 8)E Ch, 5)Berlin GP]

9. SZYMON ZIÓLKOWSKI (Pol)
(7/1/76, 6-2/227)
79.24 260-0 ..... 1)Warsaw
78.16 256-5 ..... 5)Euro Ch
79.58 261-1 ..... 1)Bialystok
79.54 260-11 ..... 1)Lublin
[252-0, 251-6, 247-9]

10. LANCE DEAL (US)
(8/21/61, 6-2/255)
80.30 263-5 .. 1)N Shore City
74.64 244-10 ..... 1)Eugene
79.22 259-11 ..... 1)El Paso
78.84 258-8 . 1)Oregon Inv
71.85 235-8 ... 5)Osaka GP
78.13 256-4 ..... 1)Eugene
80.88 265-4 . 1)Eugene GP
78.19 256-6 ..... 1)USATF
78.13 256-4 ..... 2)Goodwill

JAVELIN

Backley Is Back

NUMBER ONE: In what is surely one of the largest gaps ever seen in any event, Backley is back on top after a period of 7 seasons in which he ranked lower (usually No. 3, which he hit 4 times). The winner of 5 of the No. 1s in the interim, WR holder Jan Zelezny, is conspicuous by his absence after 11 straight years in the Rankings. The Czech's whole career is now in doubt after an early-season training injury to his shoulder.

SHOWING GREAT CONSISTENCY, Backley only once finished lower than 2nd, and while Parviainen tied him 4–4 in head-to-head meetings, all the big honors went to the Briton, earning him his third No. 1 finish. Pukstys claims his 4th U.S. No. 1 in a row and 6th overall.

1. STEVE BACKLEY (GB)
(2/12/69, 6-5/209)
87.58 287-4 ..... 1)Soini
82.79 271-7 ..... 1)Leeds
89.22 292-8 ..... 2)Tartu
87.48 287-0 2)Helsinki GP
85.44 280-4 ..... 2)Oslo GP
89.89 294-11 . 1)Gates GP
84.78 278-2 ..... 1)GB Ch
88.80 291-4 ..... 1)Sheff GP
85.79 281-5 .... 1)Stock GP
89.72 294-4 ..... 1)Euro Ch
83.18 272-11 ... 3)Laus GP
84.23 276-4 . 1)Brussels GP
85.13 279-3 ..... 1)v US
88.71 291-0 .. 1)World Cup
87.38 286-8 ..... 2)Comm G

2. AKI PARVIAINEN (Fin)
(10/26/74, 6-2 3/4/190)
86.63 284-2 ..... 1)Elimäki
90.88 298-2 ..... 1)Tartu
87.91 288-5 . 1)Helsinki GP
90.09 295-7 ..... 1)Kuortane
86.00 282-2 ..... 1)Oslo GP
85.97 282-0 ..... 2)Lahti
86.54 283-11 ..... 1)Fin Ch
86.76 284-8 ..... 1)Laus GP
86.09 282-5 ..... 1)Kusoc M
86.40 283-5 .... 1)Kiihtelysv
[3)EurCp, 9)EurCh, 2)Bruss]

3. RAYMOND HECHT (Ger)
(11/11/68, 6-3 1/4/209)
88.08 289-0 .... 1)Chemnitz
85.12 279-3 ..... 3)Jena
86.71 284-5 ..... 2)Cottbus
87.03 285-6 ..... 2)Ger Ch
84.32 276-8 ..... 5)Oslo GP
87.33 286-6 ..... 2)Stuttgart
86.67 284-4 ..... 1)Lahti
86.34 283-3 ..... 1)Lappeen
85.13 279-3 .... 2)Stock GP
86.63 284-2 ..... 3)Euro Ch
84.92 278-7 .. 3)World Cup
[283-1, 278-7, 274-10]

4. BORIS HENRY (Ger)
(12/14/73, 6-4/216)
85.92 281-11 .... 1)Texas R
86.26 283-0 ..... 1)Halle
87.11 285-9 .... 2)Chemnitz
86.89 285-1 ..... 1)Cottbus
89.21 292-8 ... 1)Rehlingen
87.92 288-5 ..... 1)Kassel
88.51 290-4 ..... 3)Tartu
87.49 287-0 ..... 1)Athens
88.62 290-9 ..... 1)Ger Ch
84.94 278-8 ..... 4)Oslo GP
87.53 287-2 ..... 1)Stuttgart
[285-4, 281-7, 280-11]

5. SERGEY MAKAROV (Rus)
(3/19/73, 6-2 1/4/194)
82.04 269-2 .. 1)Joburg GP
84.54 277-4 . 4)Helsinki GP
84.37 276-9 .... 2)Euro Cup
76.57 251-2 ..... 2)Lucerne
79.43 260-7 .... 10)Oslo GP
83.34 273-5 ..... 1)Goodwill
85.64 281-0 . 1)Thessaloníki
83.05 272-5 ..... 3)Sheff GP
80.93 265-6 .... 5)Stock GP
86.45 283-7 ..... 4)Euro Ch
85.68 281-1 ..... 2)Laus GP
79.79 261-9 . 7)Brussels GP
86.96 285-4 .. 2)World Cup
[266-10, 265-8]

6. MICK HILL (GB)
(10/22/64, 6-2 3/4/209)
83.50 273-11 .. 4)Euro Cup
83.94 275-5 .....2)Sheff GP
86.92 285-2 ..... 2)Euro Ch
83.80 274-11 ... 3)Comm G
[4)Stock, 6)Laus, 3)Bruss]

7. JUHA LAUKKANEN (Fin)
(1/6/69, 6-1 1/4/198)
86.26 283-0 . 1)Roodepoort
86.96 285-4 ..... 2)Kuortane
85.04 279-0 ..... 3)Oslo GP
85.42 280-3 ..... 2)Lappeen
[3)Hels, 3)FinCh, 5)EurCh]

8. MARIUS CORBETT (SA)
(9/26/75, 6-5/240)
87.12 285-10 ..... 1)SA Ch
86.42 283-6 . 1)Cape Town
83.53 274-0 .. 4)World Cup
88.75 291-2 ..... 1)Comm G
[9)Stock, 4)Laus, 6)Bruss]

9. PETER BLANK (Ger)
(4/10/62, 6-4 3/4/227)
86.15 282-7 .... 1)Ludweiler
86.99 285-4 ..... 1)Jena
85.54 280-8 .....3)Stuttgart
85.09 279-2 1)Gengenbach
[7)Stock, 7)EurCh, 7)Laus]

10. KOSTAS GATSIOUDIS (Gre)
(12/17/73, 6-2/207)
86.42 283-6 . 1)Alexandrop
84.13 276-0 .... 1)Kalamata
87.99 288-8 ..... 1)Chaniá
88.13 289-1 ... 1)Réthymnon
85.60 280-10 .. 1)Budapest

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Tom Pukstys
[1)US, 2)Good, 4)Brussels]
2. Josh Johnson
[4)NC, 2)US, 6)Good]
3. Ed Kaminski
[1)Colum, 3)US, 5)Good]
4. Mark Fletcher
[1)Penn, 4)US, 4)Good]
5. Breaux Greer
[2)TxR, 5)NC, 8)US]
6. Delyle Woods
[1)Laf, 2)BRouge, 5)US]
7. Roald Bradstock
[1)Athens, 1)GaT, 6)US]
8. Darin File
[2)Big 12, 8)NC, 7)US]
9. Todd Riech
[1)SCA, 9)US, 5)vGB]
10. Tom Petranoff
[1)Orono, 1)Eugene]

Backley's string of rankings (starting in '89) now reads 1-1-3-3-6-2-3-6-3-1.



CHAI VAN DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

DECATHLON

O'Brien's Record 6th

NUMBER ONE: O'Brien, out with an injury last year, finally got his record sixth top position (breaking a tie with Daley Thompson), but it wasn't all that easy. Even though Nool got thrashed by O'Brien at Goodwill, the fact that he had three other 8600-plus wins gained him support.

BUT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, O'Brien's list-leading score over the leading contenders in a big-money meet was the key fact. O'Brien also passed Thompson on the all-time scoring list, his 76 making him No. 2 ever.

1. DAN O'BRIEN (US)
(7/18/66, 6-2¼/185)
8755 ..... 1)Goodwill
2. ERKI NOOL (Est)
(6/25/70, 6-½/185)
8672 ..... 1)Götzis
8628 ..... 1)Euro Cup
8386 ..... 4)Goodwill
8667 ..... 1)Euro Ch
3. JÓN ARNAR MAGNÚSSON (Ice)
(7/28/69, 6-0/192)
8573 ..... 3)Götzis
8583w ..... 1)Reykjavík
8552 ..... 4)Euro Ch
8410 ..... 1)Talence
4. TOMÁS DVORÁK (Cze)
(5/11/72, 6-1¼/187)
8592 ..... 2)Götzis
8428 ..... 3)Goodwill
8506 ..... 5)Euro Ch
5. CHRIS HUFFINS (US)
(4/15/70, 6-2¾/181)
8315 ..... 1)Deca Jam
dnf ..... –)Götzis
8694 ..... 1)USATF
8576 ..... 2)Goodwill
dnf ..... –)Talence
6. EDUARD HÄMÄLÄINEN (Fin)
(1/21/69, 6-3½/194)
8136 ..... 6)Goodwill
8587 ..... 2)Euro Ch
8200 ..... 4)Talence
7. LEV LOBODIN (Rus)
(4/1/69, 6-2/187)
8414 ..... 5)Götzis
dnf ..... –)Moscow
8571 ..... 3)Euro Ch
8290 ..... 3)Talence
8. ROMAN SEBRLE (Cze)
(11/26/74, 6-½/174)
8538 ..... 4)Götzis
8589 ..... 2)Euro Cup
8477 ..... 6)Euro Ch
8056 ..... 5)Talence
9. SEBASTIAN CHMARA (Pol)
(11/21/71, 6-3¼/168)
8566 ..... 1)Alhama de M
8332 ..... 6)Götzis
8067 ..... 1)Bressanone
dnf ..... –)Euro Ch
8303 ..... 2)Talence
10. JAGAN HAMES (Aus)
(10/31/75, 6-2¾/183)
8040 ..... 2)Sydney
8490 ..... 1)Comm G

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Dan O'Brien *
2. Chris Huffins *
3. Ricky Barker
[3)DJ, 2)USA, dnf)Good]
4. Brian Brophy
[4)DJ, 3)USA, 7)Good]
5. Kip Janvrin
[1)Drake, 4)US, 2)vGer]
6. Trafton Rodgers
[dnf)DJ, 5)USA, 1)vGer]
7. Phil McMullen
[5)NC, 6)USA, 6)vGer]
8. Louis Hinshaw
[7)DJ, 7)USA, dnf)vGer]
9. Chad Smith
[12)DJ, 8)USA, 3)vGer]
10. Ross Bomben
[1)P-10, 4)NC, 10)USA]



HEINZ KLUCKEMANN

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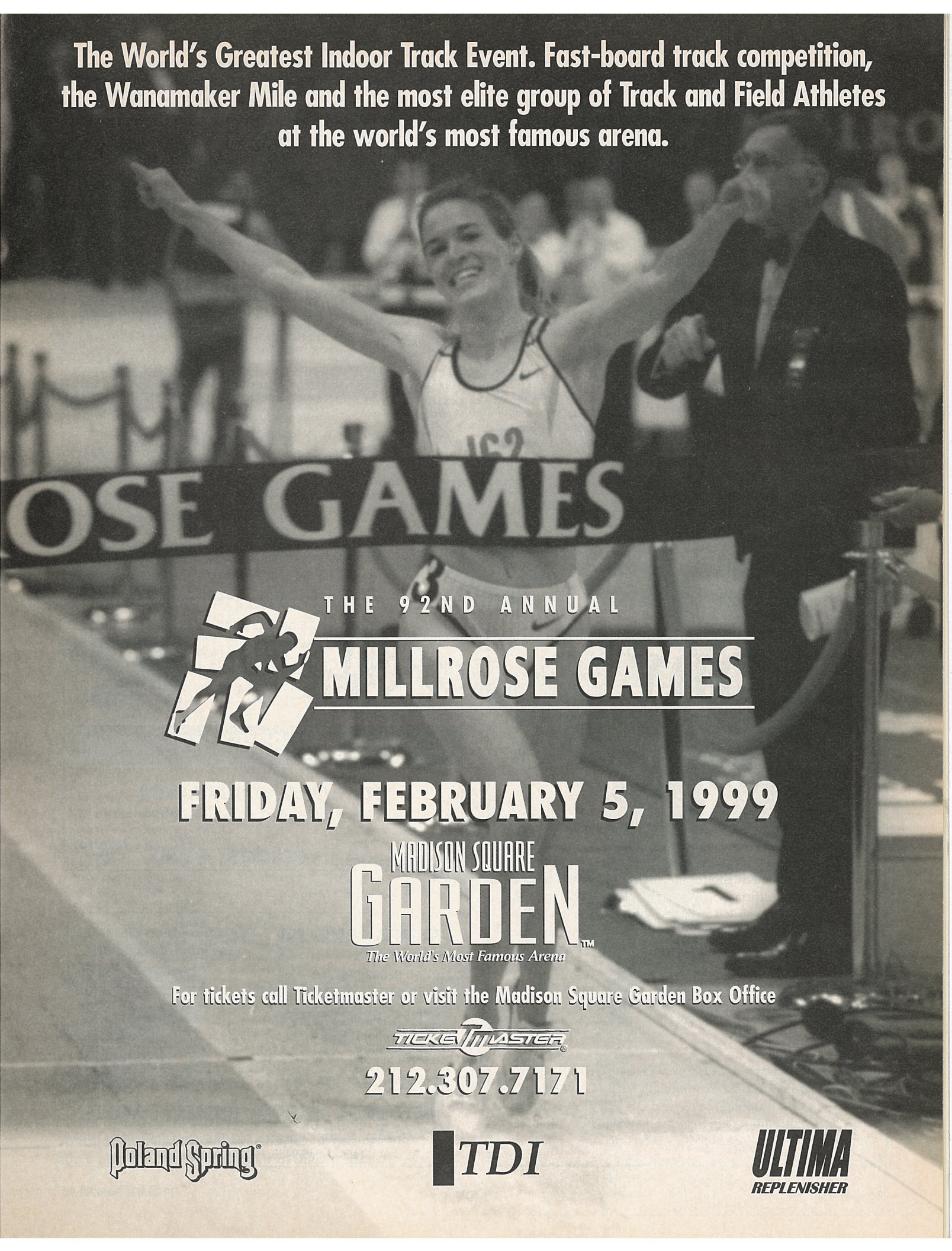
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Room At The Top

A repeat season as Women's Athlete Of The Year turned Marion Jones into the biggest name in the sport

by Jon Hendershott

November is only a few days old, but Marion Jones already has been back on the track for three weeks. "It's nothing intense yet, just jogging and drills," she clarifies. But the sport's No. 1 draw simply had to get back. "Three days after I got home from the World Cup, I was back in the weight room," she laughs. "I just couldn't sit still."

The perpetual-motion machine that is Marion Jones is ever-restless, on the track and off. In mid-September, she drew the curtain on her long '98 season—one in which she won 36 of 37 individual contests, indoors and out—by speeding to career sprint bests of 10.65 and 21.62 in Johannesburg's altitude. Twice earlier in the campaign, she spanned 23-11$^{3}/_{4}$ (7.31) for the year's farthest long jump. (See box on p. 35 for her complete outdoor season.)

Hardly slowing off the track, Jones married shot putter C.J. Hunter in early October, celebrated her 23rd birthday shortly after, then spent a week in Belize, visiting her mother's family.

Then it was back home to Raleigh, North Carolina, and a return to the training regimen Jones hopes will propel her to ever-greater heights in the coming championship seasons.

She speaks openly of shooting for four wins at next year's World Championships in Seville: 100, 200, 4x1 and long jump. And for Sydney, Jones's view is wider still: she is mulling over five Olympic wins, adding the 4x4 to the menu.

"It will be entirely up to the coaches," she acknowledges. "But I'll be there if they want me."

In the meantime, as Jones prepares for the demands of the seasons ahead, she is demanding of herself. "Marion literally never has missed a day of practice," says Trevor Graham, the Jamaican Olympian who has coached her since May of '97. "And she is never late."

As a recent example, Jones called Graham the night before she was to have her wisdom teeth extracted. She wanted to move up her training time by an hour.

"She was at the track warming up at 7:30 the next morning and we started training at 8," Graham recalls. "After practice, she lifted weights and then she went to the dentist. But she just *had* to get in that training session."

If Jones has any "secret," perhaps that is it: beneath her radiant smile and outgoing manner is a relentless drive to succeed, a white-hot intensity to learn just how good she can become.

"If I had a dollar for every time in the past year I was asked the source of my motivation, I'd be very rich by now," Jones laughs. She earned plenty during '98, almost $750,000 alone in her last two meets, the Grand Prix Final and World Cup.

She continues, "I was a tomboy; I always ran around with my brother and his friends. So from a very young age, I knew that I had to work a bit harder just to keep up with them, let alone ever beat them. I guess that drive became imbedded in me."

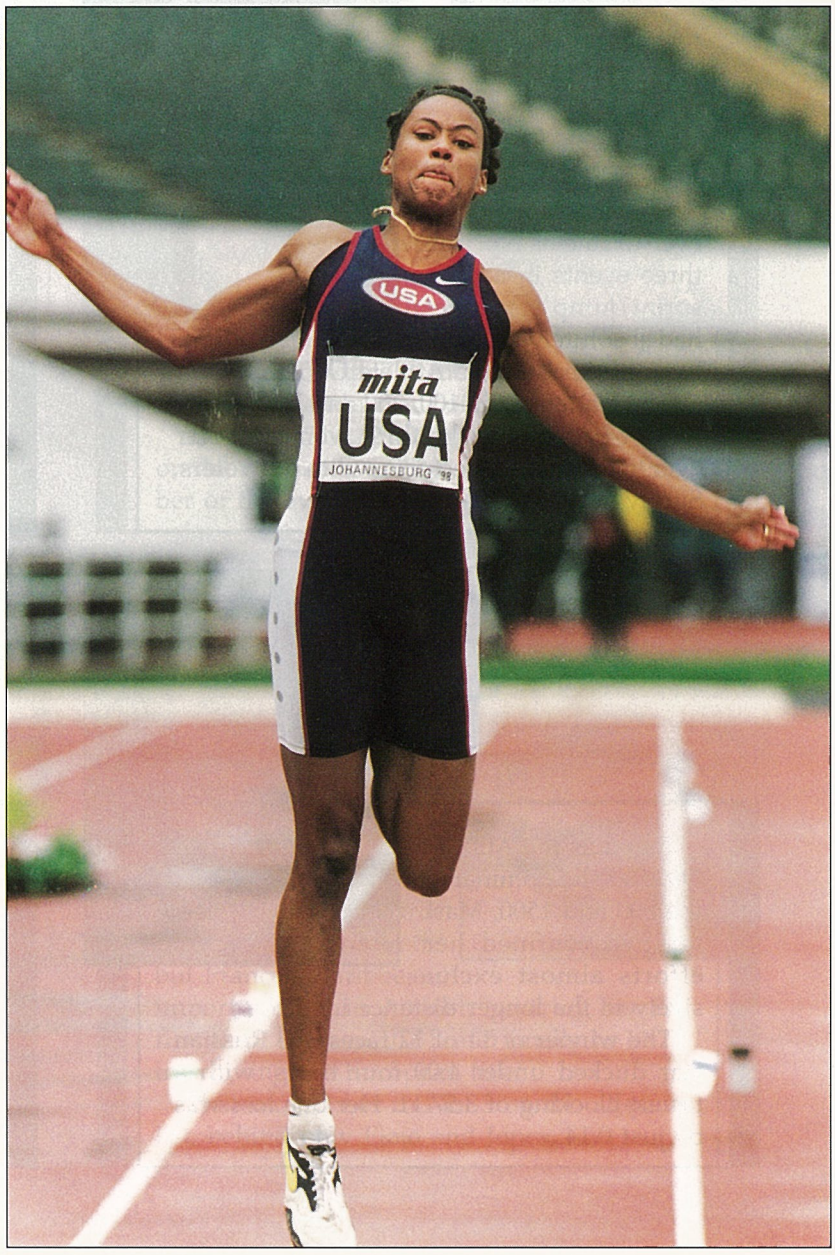
All along, even as a small child, Marion Jones just knew she could be someone special. "I knew from about age 5 that someday I would do something special in life," she says, matter-of-factly. "I had no idea what or when, but I just knew I would."

She was first attracted to running and jumping after watching Evelyn Ashford and Jackie Joyner-Kersee on television as they competed in the '84 Olympics. But seeing Florence Griffith Joyner flash to Olympic glory four years later really stoked her fire.

"After seeing Flojo in Seoul I wrote on a blackboard, 'I want to be an Olympic champion,' " says Jones. "I just always believed it was in my future to compete in the Olympics—and I hope to be a champion."

Jones believes everything happens for a reason, including the decision not to accept a spot in the Olympic 4x1 pool in '92 as a 16-year-old; including missing the '96 season due to a broken foot. "What if I had

— *continued on p. 34* —



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

Jones has become so synonymous with great sprinting that it's sometimes easy to forget that she's also the best long jumper in the world.

1998's Top 10 Women

Voting by our 40-member international panel was scored 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

Jones Unanimous Choice

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	%
1. Marion Jones	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	400	100.0
2. Maria Mutola	—	15	10	6	3	2	1	1	2	—	296	74.0%
3. Svetlana Masterkova	—	8	6	8	4	6	1	1	1	4	243	60.8%
4. Glory Alozie	—	5	3	5	6	5	4	2	—	4	191	47.8%
5. Gabriela Szabo	—	5	1	4	4	3	5	1	1	3	148	37.0%
6. Mihaela Melinte	—	—	4	2	4	2	5	4	2	2	118	29.5%
7. Catherina McKiernan	—	2	2	3	2	3	2	6	3	1	115	28.7%
8. Vita Pavlysh	—	1	3	3	1	3	4	5	3	2	114	28.5%
9. Monica Iagar	—	—	1	3	3	3	2	3	7	4	97	24.2%
10. Christine Arron	—	1	2	1	3	2	1	2	5	2	82	20.5%

11. Sonia O'Sullivan 81; 12. Kim Batten 71; 13. Zohra Ouaziz 56; 14. Emma George 52; 15. Fali Ogunkoya 50; 16. Denise Lewis 40; 17. Tegla Loroupe 23; 18. Heike Drechsler 11; 19. Franka Dietzsch 8; 20. Tanja Damaske 4.

1 MARION JONES

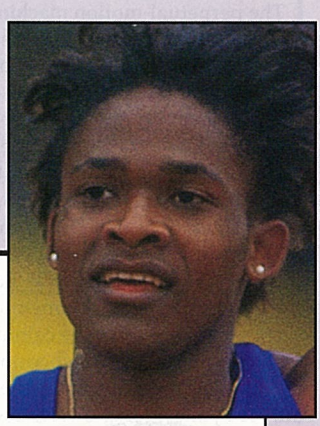


VICTOR SAILER/PHOTO RUN

The first American ever to rate as No. 1 in three events in a year, sprint/jump star Jones had absolutely no problems in repeating as Athlete Of The Year.

The leader in the 100, 200 and long jump, Jones became only the third women's AOY ever to record a perfect score with our voters. Surely you're not surprised!

2 MARIA MUTOLA



TONY DUFFY/THE SPORTING IMAGE

Mutola's fourth trip into Top 10 land finds her matching her runner-up position of '94.

The finest 2-lap specialist around, the Mozambican came about as close to an undefeated season as you can get, her one loss in 13 outdoor 800s coming by just 0.02 seconds. She never failed to break 2:00, and had a list-pacing 1:56.11 topper.

3 SVETLANA MASTERKOVA

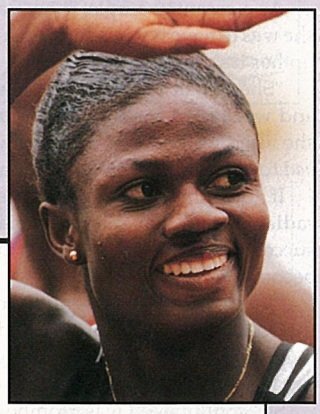


VICTOR SAILER/PHOTO RUN

Rated as the AOY in '96 after she dominated the 800 and 1500, Masterkova confined her efforts almost exclusively to the longer distance in '98.

The winner of 11 of 12 races, the Russian star ducked under 4:00 four times, with a fastest clocking of 3:57.11. Her one loss was by just 0.14.

4 GLORY ALOZIE



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

Just a 12.96 hurdler as the season began, the young Nigerian PRed at 12.85 in her first race of the year, then subsequently lowered that all-time best to 12.66, 12.46 and 12.44 (twice). That last moved her to =10 on the all-time world list.

The yearly list leader, she lost only twice in 16 races.

5

GABRIELA SZABO



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

Szabo matched MJ's feat of topping the world lists in three events, posting the fastest times in the 1500 (3:56.97), 3000 (8:24.31) and 5000 (14:31.48). That gave her Ranking positions of 2, 1 and 3, compared to 7, 1, 1 a year ago.

The 3000 time moved the Romanian to No. 8 on the all-time list, the 5K to No. 3.

6

MIHAELA MELINTE



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

The women's hammer is still at a stage in it's young life where the all-time best is regularly taking a beating. Giving it the best beating in '98 was Romania's star, who claimed the WR with a spin of 239-11/73.14.

She was the only field eventer to go undefeated, winning all dozen of her meets.

7

CATHERINA McKIERNAN



ALLSPORT/ANTON WANT

Ireland's McKiernan made the marathon's fastest debut in '97, then followed up this year with a pair of sterling 26-milers.

First she turned back the field in London with a 2:26:26 race. Then came the Amsterdam affair where she fought her way to a 2:22:23, moving to No. 6 on the all-time list.

8

VITA PAVLYSH



ALLSPORT/MIKE COOPER

Pavlysh put the shot in only five meets in '98, but so far above her competition was the Ukrainian standout that she ended up with 7 of the 10 farthest throws of the year, and 12 out of 19.

Her best, 71-2/21.69, moved her to No. 9 on the all-time list. She's the first new member of the event's top 10 since '90.

9

MONICA IAGAR



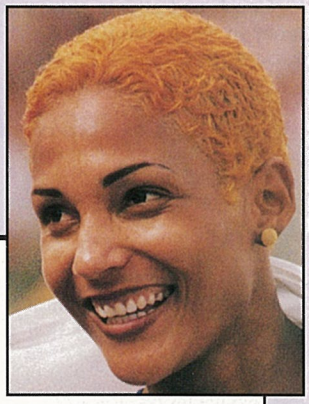
CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

In an era where 2m (6-6$^{3}/_{4}$) jumps are becoming scarce, Iagar did it four times in '98, twice as many times as everyone else combined. And she produced 8 of the year's 15 jumps at 6-6 (1.98) or better.

In a year in which no other nation had even a pair of Top 10ers, Romania thus claimed three.

10

CHRISTINE ARRON



MARK SHEARMAN/THE SPORTING IMAGE

With Jones winning just about every sprint title in sight, it was hard for Arron to get noticed, but France's Caribbean import got hot in August, lowering her PR first to 10.85, then 10.81, and finally to 10.73 in winning the European title.

That moved her to No. 3 on the all-time list, behind only Flojo and Jones.

competed in the last two Olympics?" Jones asks. "I could be totally burned out by now."

Jones's agent, Charley Wells, says, "Marion never takes anything for granted, on the track or off. All the notoriety she has gotten the past two years could really affect some people. But Marion is very levelheaded. She has never seen herself as better than anyone else."

While in South Africa for the World Cup, Jones was among a group of elite athletes who traveled to the impoverished township of Soweto to help open a new sports complex. All the athletes were enthusiastically received, but Jones was accorded special status, and responded in kind.



ALLSPORT/CRAIG PRENTIS

Now a huge star wherever she goes, Jones was treated with awe by the young children of Soweto.

Clearly free of any prima donna syndrome, she bonded with the children, smiling, posing for pictures and sharing her bubbling personality. It's nothing new for Jones: at Zürich in '97, her first meet after winning the Worlds 100, she spent an afternoon romping with children at the meet's annual kids day.

Jones knows many factors affected her emergence as a star in track, a central one being her decision to concentrate on college basketball at North Carolina. "I split my time between basketball and track," she says. "I went right into track each spring using just my basketball training, so I never had a real background for track. But I also kept a fresh attitude toward track. When I decided in '97 to concentrate just on track, I came back into it rejuvenated."

If '97 was Jones's year to return to the sport, '98 was the season to fortify her place as the sport's preeminent woman. Says Graham, "Marion learned about the sport in '97—training, traveling, competing on the circuit, coping with expectations. So she was a lot more mature in '98, because she had that experience behind her.

"But from day one of training last fall getting ready for '98, she was on a mission: to stay healthy, to keep improving and to keep her top rankings. I told her, 'Get your base work done, build your strength and there's no reason you should lose.'"

The fall of track training was her first ever, and as a result, says Jones, "I came into the '98 season more fit for track than ever before. Instead of rushing into track from basketball, I started in the best track shape of my life."

Coach and athlete alike were especially pleased by Jones's consistency in '98: in the 100, 17 of 19 races under 10.90, 8 times each in the 10.80s and 10.70s; 4 of 6 half-lappers under 22-flat; 7 of 10 long jump wins beyond 7m (22-11$^{3}/_{4}$).

Jones admits, "I can't put my finger on just one performance as most pleasing. Jumping 7.31 twice was great, because I really love the long jump. My sprint PRs at the World Cup were satisfying too. But overall I was happiest with my consistency. I always expected to run the high-10.70s, even on a bad day."

Graham says that one of Jones's strongest points is her ability to focus: "She grasps what I'm trying to teach her. She knows how to run a certain time, how much effort to put into a race to run a time like 10.70."

The athlete also echoes the coach's view when she says, "But I still have so much to learn in all the events. Trevor teaches me something new every day. So I'm very hopeful, since I'm so far from knowing all there is to know about them."

One facet of training has helped develop Jones's concentration: she trains only with men, a group which includes 400 star Antonio Pettigrew. "She is forced to concentrate on her technique under a lot of pressure," Graham explains. "She never tries to outrun the guys, but only focuses on her own technique even if they pull away from her."

Graham has never had Jones run longer than a 300 in practice. High-quality training both develops her physical conditioning and hones that concentration.

Jones and Graham know well that she will need all the fitness and strength of mind she can muster to handle the challenges of the coming campaigns. Jones says, "The [multiple medal] goals are very viable. Doing several events in one meet in '98 set a base to do it in coming years.

"So the consistency I had this season was really encouraging. As a competitor, I've always found a challenge for myself and then worked to get the very best out of myself so I can achieve that goal. But in general, I always just want to run faster or jump farther in a competition than I did in the one before.

"And I feel I'm helping all women athletes improve. I love the idea that they're readjusting to reach my level. I want young athletes like Angela Williams to see that 11-flat isn't going to cut it. I want them to see that 10.65—and eventually 10.49—is possible.

"I want women to see that such high goals are real and attainable. When I do it, they see with their own eyes that such things are possible. They see that an athlete who has achieved high goals is real. They see I'm not someone from another planet." □

U.S. Women Voting: Jones Perfect Again

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	%
1. Marion Jones	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	360	100.0%
2. Kim Batten	—	29	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	314	87.2%
3. Jearl Miles-Clark	—	3	12	14	—	1	3	2	1	—	246	68.3%
4. Tisha Waller	—	2	13	9	5	1	3	2	—	1	239	66.4%
5. Melissa Morrison	—	1	1	3	12	8	2	4	2	2	176	48.9%
6. Connie Price-Smith	—	—	2	1	5	4	3	8	4	6	123	34.2%
7. Regina Jacobs	—	1	2	1	5	7	2	—	4	4	117	32.5%
8. Chryste Gaines	—	—	—	1	—	8	3	7	4	3	91	25.3%
9. Jackie Joyner-Kersee	—	—	1	2	4	1	4	2	1	4	79	21.9%
10. Inger Miller	—	—	—	—	1	3	7	3	4	3	69	19.2%

11. Suzy Hamilton 55; 12. Angie Vaughn 48; 13. Stacy Dragila 36; 14. Amy Palmer 25; 15. Kelly Blair-LaBounty 2.

WOMEN'S 100 METERS

Jones Sprints Short...

NUMBER ONE: While most mortals are content with trying to break the 11-second barrier (something only 10 others accomplished all year), Jones has left not only 11-flat behind, but also 10.90 and 10.80 on a regular basis.

ONLY ONCE did Jones fail to break 11 (in her first race of the season) and after that was under the barrier 20 straight times (including wind-aided races). She broke the 10.90 mark 19 times, 10.80 on 11 occasions, and in her final race of the year even broke 10.70 (with altitude aid).

1. MARION JONES (US)
(10/12/75, 5-10/141)
[see box]

2. CHRISTINE ARRON (Fr)
(9/13/73, 5-9¾/141)
11.18i ..... 1)Tampere
10.95 . 1)Bon-sur-Marne
10.99 .... 1)St.-Denis GP
11.20 ..... 1)Dortmund
10.99 ..... 1)Geneva
11.14 ..... 2)Euro Cup
10.99 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
10.99 ..... 1)Nice GP
10.98 ..... 2)Paris GP
10.85 ..... 1)Montauban
11.19 ..... 7)Monaco GP
10.73 ..... 1)Euro Ch
10.95 ..... 2)Brussels GP
[10.81, 11.12]

3. INGER MILLER (Nik)
(6/12/72, 5-4¼/121)
11.44 ..... 1)Azusa
10.84w ..... 1)Mt. SAC
11.09 ..... 2)Rio GP
11.07 ..... 3)Doha GP
11.09w ... 4)Eugene GP
11.12 ..... 3)USATF
11.03 ..... 3)Linz GP
11.05 ..... 1)Zagreb
11.12 ..... 3)Vill-d'Ascq
11.07 ..... 4)Rome GP
11.15 ..... 4)Nice GP
11.18 ..... 3)Goodwill
11.01 ..... 1)JJK GP
11.11 ..... 4)Paris GP
11.06 ..... 2)Malmö
11.04 .. 4)Stockholm GP
11.10 ..... 5)Monaco GP
11.10 ..... 4)Zürich GP
11.03 ... 3)Lausanne GP
11.15 ..... 3)GP Final
11.16 ..... 2)TOTO
[11.11, 11.23]

4. CHRYSTE GAINES (US)
(9/14/70, 5-7/130)
10.8(A) .... 1)Pietersburg
11.21(A) . 1)Roodepoort
11.20 ..... 1)Cape Town
11.28 ..... 3)Rio GP
11.16 ..... 4)Doha GP
11.02w ... 2)Eugene GP
11.22 .... 3)St.-Denis GP
11.12 ..... 1)Milan
10.89 ..... 2)USATF
11.24 ..... 2)Zagreb
11.08 ..... 3)Oslo GP
11.17 ..... 4)Vill-d'Ascq
11.00 ..... 2)Rome GP
11.23 ..... 5)Goodwill
11.20 ..... 3)JJK GP
11.04 ..... 3)Paris GP
10.95 .. 1)Stockholm GP
10.95 ..... 2)Monaco GP
11.04 ..... 2)Zürich GP
11.18 ... 5)Lausanne GP
11.19 ..... 6)Brussels GP
11.17 ..... 5)Berlin GP
11.23 ..... 6)GP Final
[10.96, 11.01]

5. ZHANNA PINTUSEVICH (Ukr)
(7/6/72, 5-4½/136)
10.9(A) .... 2)Pietersburg
11.25(A) . 2)Roodepoort
11.30 ..... 2)Cape Town
11.05 ..... 1)Lucerne
11.02 ..... 2)Linz GP
11.06 ..... 2)Oslo GP
11.18 ..... 5)Vill-d'Ascq
11.09 ..... 2)Goodwill
11.07 ..... 3)Zürich GP
10.92 ..... 4)Euro Ch
11.23 ..... 7)Brussels GP
11.20 ..... 6)Berlin GP
11.15 ..... 4)GP Final
11.08(A) ... 4)World Cup
11.28 ..... 3)TOTO
[11.00, 11.06]

6. SEVATHEDA FYNES (Bah)
(10/17/74, 5-5/128)
11.43 ..... 1)Sea Ray R
11.08 ..... 1)Rio GP
11.05 ..... 2)Doha GP
11.06 ..... 2)Chengdu
11.09 ..... 4)Bah Ch
11.11 ..... 1)Bellinzona
11.14 ..... 4)Linz GP
11.16 ..... 4)Oslo GP
11.27 ..... 7)Vill-d'Ascq
11.02 ..... 3)Rome GP
11.09 ..... 2)Nice GP
11.24 ..... 5)JJK GP
11.05 .. 5)Stockholm GP
11.05 ..... 3)Monaco GP
11.21 ..... 3)Leverkusen
11.13 ..... 7)Zürich GP
11.15 ... 4)Lausanne GP
11.09 ..... 3)Brussels GP
11.07 ..... 2)Berlin GP
11.10 ..... 2)GP Final
11.33 ..... 4)TOTO
[11.11, 11.43]

7. MERLENE OTTEY (Jam)
(5/10/60, 5-8/130)
11.19 ..... 1)Kassel
11.18 ..... 2)Milan
11.16 ..... 1)Byrkjelo
11.02 ..... 1)Nuremberg
11.21 ..... 4)Goodwill
11.07 ..... 1)Cuxhaven
11.01 .. 3)Stockholm GP
11.05 ..... 4)Monaco GP
11.10 ..... 5)Zürich GP
[11.16, 11.18, 11.19]

8. CHANDRA STURRUP (Bah)
(9/12/71, 5-2½/114)
11.01w ..... 2)Mt. SAC
11.23w ..... 1)Hiroshima
11.30 ..... 1)Mito
11.15 ..... 2)Osaka GP
11.09 ..... 3)Chengdu
11.14w ... 5)Eugene GP
11.27 .... 4)St.-Denis GP
10.95 ..... 1)Bah Ch
11.21 ..... 2)Lucerne
11.22 ..... 5)Linz GP
11.30 ..... 5)Oslo GP
11.23 ..... 6)Vill-d'Ascq
11.26 ..... 7)Rome GP
11.44 ..... 9)Nice GP
11.17 ..... 7)Paris GP
11.17 .. 7)Stockholm GP
11.14 ..... 2B)Zürich GP
11.14 ..... 1)CAC G
11.26 ..... 1)Rieti GP
11.13 ..... 4)Berlin GP
11.19 ..... 5)GP Final
10.97(A) ... 2)World Cup
11.06 ..... 1)Comm G
[11.14, 11.16w, 11.22]

9. IRINA PRIVALOVA (Rus)
(11/22/68, 5-8½/139)
11.13 ..... 2)Athens
11.04 ..... 1)Euro Cup
11.12 ..... 6)Monaco GP
11.12 ..... 6)Zürich GP
10.83 ..... 2)Euro Ch
11.24 ..... 8)Brussels GP
11.12 ..... 3)Berlin GP
11.27 ..... 7)GP Final
11.15(A) ... 5)World Cup
[11.02, 11.22]

10. EKATERINI THANOU (Gre)
(2/1/75, 5-5/123)
10.8w ..... 1)Kalamata
10.99 ..... 1)Réthymnon
11.21 ..... 1)Budapest
11.11 ..... 1)Athens
10.87 ..... 3)Euro Ch
11.02 ... 2)Lausanne GP
11.16 ..... 5)Brussels GP
11.45 ..... 4)Rieti GP
[10.92, 11.04]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Marion Jones *
2. Inger Miller *
3. Chryste Gaines *
4. Shakedia Jones [1)P-10, 2)NC, 1)WJr]
5. Torri Edwards [2)P-10, 3)NC, 4)USA]
6. Carlette Guidry [5sf)USA, 1)Villa, 4)JJK]
7. Cheryl Taplin [4)SAC, 5)USA, 3)Villa]
8. Angela Williams [1)CaHS, 1)USJ, 2)WJr]
9. Tameka Roberts [3)Waco, 2)F-de-F, 6)US]
10. Celena M.-Milner [2)Waco, 1)Lign, 3B)Linz]

200 METERS

... And Sprints Long

NUMBER ONE: Given that the 100 was a GP event, so she concentrated on winning races there, and that she was also dabbling in the LJ, it's almost amazing that Jones found time to tackle the half-lapper. But tackle it she did, and she tackled it well, blowing away all her rivals for an easy repeat.

THE LACK OF GP STATUS meant that the 200 was rarely contested on the bigtime circuit, Brussels being the only major GP meet to host the event. Sorting out the rest of the players wasn't easy, but Ogunkoya was an obvious runner-up.

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Marion Jones *
2. Inger Miller *
3. Zundra F.-Alexander [2)US, 1)Villa, 6)Good]
4. Cheryl Taplin [=3)US, 2)Villa, 4)Good]
5. Carlette Guidry [=3)US, 7)Good, 4)Zag]
6. Celena Mondie-Milner [1)F-de-F, 5)US, 1)Bad]
7. LaTasha Jenkins [2)SRay, 1)MAC, 2)NC]
8. Shakedia Jones [1)Westw, 3)NC, 2)WJr]
9. Kelli White [1)SRay, 2)SEC, 4)NC]
10. LaKeisha Backus [2)TxInv, 1)B 12, 7)NC]

1. MARION JONES (US)
[see box]

2. FALI OGUNKOYA (Ngr)
(12/5/69, 5-7¾/145)
22.9(A) .... 2)Pietersburg
22.84(A) ..... 1)El Paso
22.42w ..... 1)Mt. SAC
22.92 ..... 1)Tucson
22.64 .... 1)St.-Denis GP
22.85 ..... 1)Prague
22.22 ..... 1)Afr Ch
22.25(A) ... 2)World Cup

3. ZHANNA PINTUSEVICH (Ukr)
(7/6/72, 5-4½/136)
22.69 ..... 4)Vill-d'Ascq
22.46 ..... 2)Goodwill
22.74 ..... 2)Euro Ch
22.35(A) .. 3)World Cup
23.05 ..... 2)TOTO
[22.92, 23.02]

4. BEVERLY McDONALD (Jam)
(2/15/70, 5-5/130)
22.60 ..... 1)adidas/Ore
22.29w ..... 2)Padua
22.68 ..... 1)Jam Ch
22.45 ..... 1)Lucerne
22.24 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
22.67 ..... 3)Goodwill
22.84 ..... 2)Sheffield GP
22.30w ..... 1)CAC G
22.39 ..... 2)Brussels GP
22.36(A) ... 4)World Cup

5. IRINA PRIVALOVA (Rus)
(11/22/68, 5-8½/139)
22.62 ..... 1)Euro Ch
22.82 ..... 4)Brussels GP
22.61(A) .. 5)World Cup
22.80 ..... 4)Euro Ch
22.85 ..... 5)Brussels GP
22.93 ..... 1)Rieti GP
[22.72, 22.77, 23.09]
[23.02, 23.11i, 23.34]

6. INGER MILLER (US)
(6/12/72, 5-4¼/121)
23.01 ..... 2)adidas/Ore
22.20 ..... 1)Brussels GP
23.16 ..... 3)TOTO

7. MARY ONYALI (Ngr)
(2/3/68, 5-5½/115)
23.14 ..... 1)Houston
23.03w ..... 6)Padua
23.01 ..... 3)Lucerne
22.67 ..... 3)Brussels GP
22.87 ..... 1)TOTO

8. MELINDA GAINSFORD-TAYLOR (Aus)
(10/1/71, 5-8/145)
22.76 ..... 1)Sydney
22.56 .. 1)Melbourne GP
22.49 ..... 2)Sydney
22.53 ..... 1)Aus Ch
22.78 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
22.78 ..... 1)Leverkusen
23.04 ..... 4)Comm G
[22.76, 22.78, 22.79]

9. NATALYA VORONOVA (Rus)
(7/9/65, 5-7/136)
23.01 ..... 1)Rio GP
22.58 ..... 2)Vill-d'Ascq
23.17 ..... 2)Rus Ch

10. SVETLANA GONCHARENKO(Rus)
(5/28/71, 5-10/134)
22.64 ..... 3)Vill-d'Ascq
23.46 .. 1)Gateshead GP
22.46 ..... 1)Thessaloníki
22.86 ..... 1)Rus Ch
[5sf)EuroCh, 8)Brus, 4)Riet]

MJ's Incredible Season

Marion Jones didn't lose a competition in '98 until the last day of her season, when she got edged out in the World Cup long jump. Between the 100, 200, 400 and long jump, the AOY won 35 of her 36 outdoor finals:

11.01 ..... 1)Melbourne GP 2/25
21.98 ..... 1)Sydney 2/28
22-7w ..... 1)Raleigh R 3/27
21-9½ ..... 1)Duke Inv 4/ 4
50.36 ..... 1)Mt. SAC 4/19
22.56 ..... 1)Shizuoka 5/ 3
(23.00h)
23-1¾ ..... 1)Mito 5/ 5
10.79 ..... 1)Osaka GP 5/ 9
10.71 ..... 1)Chengdu 5/12
10.77w ..... 1)Eugene GP 5/31
23-11¾ ..... 1) " ..... "
21.94w ..... 1)Padua 6/ 7
10.86 ..... 1)Helsinki GP 6/13
10.72 ..... 1)USATF 6/20
(10.75wh, 10.71sf)
23-8w ..... 1) " ..... "
22.24 ..... 1) " 6/21
(22.46h)
10.84 ..... 1)Linz GP 7/05
10.82 ..... 1)Oslo GP 7/09
10.75 ..... 1)Rome GP 7/14
23-8¾ ..... 1) " ..... "
10.90 ..... 1)Goodwill 7/19
21.80 ..... 1) " 7/20
10.88 ..... 1)Paris GP 7/29
22-10½ .... 1) " ..... "
10.87 ..... 1)Malmö 8/ 3
10.72 ..... 1)Monaco GP 8/ 8
10.77 ..... 1)Zürich GP 8/12
23-11¾ .... 1) " ..... "
10.72 ..... 1)Lausanne GP . 8/25
10.80 ..... 1)Brussels GP ... 8/28
10.81 ..... 1)Berlin GP 9/ 1
10.83 ..... 1)GP Final 9/ 5
23-4¾ ..... 1) " ..... "
21.62(A) ... 1)World Cup 9/11
10.65(A) ... 1) " 9/12
22-11¾(A) . 2) " 9/13
(h=heat; sf=semifinal; w=windy)

400 METERS

Nigerians Score 1–2

NUMBER ONE: The battle for the top spot was between Ogunkoya and Opara. The latter appeared to have the upper hand with a 5–0 head-to-head record through Lausanne, but then Ogunkoya kicked into gear, winning their next 5 meetings, including the GP Final, and that was all she needed.

MILES-CLARK continued her climb into the event's all-time elite. By far the highest U.S. scorer ever, she now has 51 points for No. 5 overall and now has legendary Irena Szewinska (55) in her sights for the next spot up.

1. FALI OGUNKOYA (Ngr)
(12/5/69, 5-6/146)
51.72i ..... 1)Maebashi
50.26(A) . 1)Roodepoort
50.57 ..... 1)Cape Town
50.27(A) ... 2)Joburg GP
50.19 ..... 2)Eugene GP
50.61 ..... 1)Ostrava
50.15 ..... 2)Oslo GP
49.89 ..... 3)Rome GP
49.89 ..... 1)Goodwill
49.87 ..... 1)JJK GP
50.09 ..... 2)Monaco GP
50.15 ..... 4)Zürich GP
50.07 ..... 1)Afr Ch
50.03 ... 1)Lausanne GP
49.60 ..... 1)Brussels GP
49.72 ..... 1)Berlin GP
49.73 ..... 1)GP Final
49.52(A) .. 1)World Cup

2. CHARITY OPARA (Ngr)
(2/5/72, 5-7/132)
49.87(A) ... 1)Joburg GP
54.72 ..... 8)Rio GP
50.13 ..... 1)Oslo GP
49.29 ..... 1)Rome GP
49.51 ..... 1)Stuttgart
49.88 ..... 1)Monaco GP
49.59 ..... 2)Zürich GP
50.13 ..... 2)Afr Ch
50.68 ... 2)Lausanne GP
50.24 ..... 2)Brussels GP
50.40 ..... 3)Berlin GP
50.09 ..... 2)GP Final

3. GRIT BREUER (Ger)
(2/16/72, 5-5¼/139)
50.45i ..... 1)Euro Ind
50.49 ..... 3)Oslo GP
49.88 ..... 2)Rome GP
49.70 ..... 2)Stuttgart
50.21 ..... 3)Monaco GP
49.51 ..... 1)Zürich GP
49.93 ..... 1)Euro Ch
50.25 ..... 2)Berlin GP
50.60 ..... 4)GP Final
49.86(A) ... 2)World Cup
[1)Ger Ind, 2)Ger Ch]

4. SANDIE RICHARDS (Jam)
(11/6/68, 5-7/134)
50.85 ..... 2)Doha GP
50.98 ..... 3)Goodwill
50.47 ..... 2)JJK GP
50.30 ..... 4)Monaco GP
50.03 ..... 3)Zürich GP
51.05 ... 4)Lausanne GP
50.42 ..... 3)Brussels GP
50.44 ..... 3)GP Final
50.33(A) ... 3)World Cup
50.18 ..... 1)Comm G
[1)JamCh, 7)Rom, 1)CAC]

5. JEARL MILES-CLARK (US)
(9/4/66, 5-7/132)
51.20 ..... 1)Rio GP
50.95 ..... 4)Eugene GP
51.19 ..... 6)Oslo GP
50.11 ..... 4)Rome GP
50.43 ..... 2)Goodwill
50.58 ..... 3)JJK GP
50.55 ..... 5)Monaco GP
50.43 ..... 4)Brussels GP
50.57 ..... 4)Berlin GP

6. HELENA FUCHSOVÁ (Cze)
(6/3/65, 5-7/150)
50.21 ..... 2)Euro Ch
50.81 ... 3)Lausanne GP
50.52 ..... 5)Brussels GP
51.02 ..... 5)GP Final
50.40(A) ... 4)World Cup
[3)Rio, 3)Osaka, 1)EurCp]

7. CATHY FREEMAN (Aus)
(2/16/73, 5-4½/115)
50.96 .. 1)Melbourne GP
50.02 ..... 1)Eugene GP
50.35 ..... 1)Lucerne
50.92 ..... 4)Oslo GP
[51.01, 51.26, 51.37]

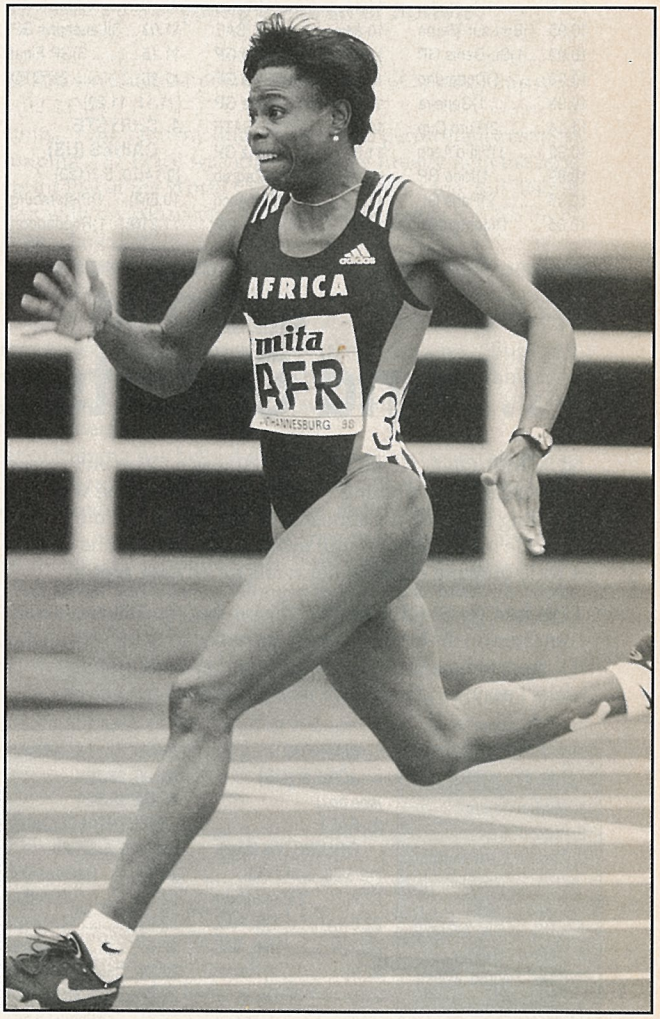
8. IONELA TÎRLEA (Rom)
(2/9/76, 5-5/110)
50.72 ... 1)Bratislava GP
50.32 ..... 5)Rome GP
50.82 ..... 7)Brussels GP
50.94 ..... 6)Berlin GP
[2)EurIn, 1)Doha, 6)GPF]

9. LORRAINE GRAHAM (Jam)
(9/8/73)
50.33 ..... 6)Rome GP
50.23 ..... 3)Stuttgart
50.74 ..... 7)Monaco GP
50.26 ..... 5)Zürich GP
50.86 ..... 5)Berlin GP
[4)JJK, 8)Bruss, 7)GPF]

10. OLGA KOTLYAROVA (Rus)
(4/12/76, 5-10/130)
50.67 ..... 1)Rus Ch
50.79 ..... 6)Zürich GP
50.38 ..... 3)Euro Ch
51.54 ... 6)Lausanne GP
51.20(A) ... 5)World Cup

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Jearl Miles-Clark *
2. Kim Graham [1)US, 4)Lucer, 5)Good]
3. Monique Hennagan [3)US, 4)Good, 5)JJK]
4. Kim Batten [1)GaT/Reeb, 5)Oslo]
5. Rochelle Stevens [4)SAC, 2)US, 6)Good]
6. Marion Jones [1)SAC]
7. Suziann Reid [1)TexInv, 1)B12, 1)NC]
8. Toya Brown [4)NC, 4)USA, 6)Stutt]
9. Shanelle Porter [5)SAC, 5)EugGP, 5)US]
10. Michele Collins [1)Ft-d-Fr, 6)US, 7)JJK]

Ogunkoya, who first ranked in '89 then didn't score for 5 seasons, finally got her first No. 1.



MARK SHEARMAN/THE SPORTING IMAGE

800 METERS

Mutola Matches Quirot

NUMBER ONE: After two years in lower spots, Mutola returned to the prime position she held three years in a row 1993–95. That gives her a record-tieing four No. 1s overall, matching the event record held by Ana Quirot, who missed most of this year with hepatitis.

U.S. FORTUNES have never been so good. For the first time 3 Americans scored and the U.S. won the event scoring title. And Miles-Clark earns the highest U.S. spot since '69, when Madeline Manning was the only U.S. leader ever.

1. MARIA MUTOLA (Moz)
(10/27/72, 5-5¾/110)
1:58.83i ..... 1)Stuttgart
1:58.73i ..... 1)Gent
2:02.00i ..... 1)Millrose
1:57.90i .... 1)Stockholm
1:56.36i ..... 1)Liévin
1:58.66 ... 1)Eugene GP
1:57.7 ..... 1)Eugene
1:58.83 ..... 1)Goodwill
1:58.27 ..... 1)Barcelona
1:58.12 ..... 1)Paris GP
1:57.03 ..... 1)Hechtel
1:56.71 . 1)Stockholm GP
1:56.65 .. 2)Monaco GP
1:56.11 ..... 1)Zürich GP
1:57.95 ..... 1)Afr Ch
1:57.71 ..... 1)Rieti GP
1:59.88(A) . 1)World Cup
1:57.60 ..... 1)Comm G
[1:59.06, 2:02.84]

2. JEARL MILES-CLARK (US)
(9/4/66, 5-7/132)
2:02.54 .. 1)Tallahassee
1:58.78 ..... 1)USATF
1:59.08 ..... 2)Goodwill
1:58.50 ..... 2)Paris GP
1:57.15 . 2)Stockholm GP
1:56.43 ..... 2)Zürich GP
2:01.58(A) .. 4)World Cup
[2:04.72, 2:06.50]

3. YELENA AFANASYEVA (Rus)
(3/27/65, 5-4½/119)
1:59.78 ..... 1)Dortmund
1:58.83 ..... 1)Athens
1:57.51 ..... 1)Zagreb
2:00.09 .... 3)Vill-d'Ascq
1:57.68 ..... 1)Rome GP
1:58.70 ..... 1)Rus Ch
1:56.63 .. 1)Monaco GP
1:59.16 ..... 4)Zürich GP
1:58.50 ..... 1)Euro Ch
1:59.67 ..... 5)Rieti GP
2:00.20(A) .. 2)World Cup
[5)St.-D, 6)Nice, 8)Paris]

4. JOETTA CLARK (US)
(8/1/62, 5-7½/123)
1:59.01 ..... 2)USATF
2:02.46 .... 7)Vill-d'Ascq
2:00.02 ..... 3)Goodwill
1:59.35 ..... 6)Paris GP
2:00.09 . 3)Stockholm GP
1:57.84 .. 3)Monaco GP
[2)Millr, 1)US Ind, 1)Prin]

5. HASNA BENHASSI (Mor)
(6/1/78)
2:00.07 . 1)Hengelo GP
1:59.71 . 1)St.-Denis GP
2:00.48 ... 1)Nuremberg
1:58.47 ..... 1)Nice GP
1:58.69 ..... 4)Paris GP
2:01.14 . 7)Stockholm GP
[1)Hen, 7)Stock, 2)AfrCh]

6. MEREDITH VALMON (US)
(10/15/68, 5-6/120)
1:59.29 ..... 3)USATF
1:58.59 ..... 3)Rome GP
1:59.14 ..... 2)Nice GP
1:58.36 .. 4)Monaco GP
1:59.73 ..... 6)Zürich GP
[2)adi/O, 1)Mont, 4)Good]

7. LETITIA VRIESDE (Sur)
(10/5/64, 5-2½/110)
1:58.16 ..... 2)Rome GP
1:59.02 ..... 5)Paris GP
1:59.20 ..... 4)Hechtel
1:59.01 .. 5)Monaco GP
[1)Linz, 7)Zür, 3)WCup]

8. LARISA MIKHAYLOVA (Rus)
(1/3/69, 5-4½/110)
1:59.23 ..... 1)Moscow
1:58.01 ..... 1)Euro Cup
1:58.65 .... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
1:58.71 ..... 2)Rieti GP
[4)Nice, dnf)EurCh, 3)TOT)

9. MALIN EWERLÖF (Swe)
(6/2/72, 5-10/137)
1:59.58 ..... 1)Malmö
2:00.26 . 4)Stockholm GP
1:59.44 ..... 2sf)Euro Ch
1:59.61 ..... 2) "
2:02.61 .... 5)World Cup
[7)St.-D, 9)Linz, 1)SwCh]

10. STEPHANIE GRAF (Aut)
(4/26/73, 5-7/128)
1:57.97 ..... 2)Zagreb
1:57.97 ..... 3)Zürich GP
2:00.11 ..... 3)Euro Ch
1:59.70 ..... 1)Rovereto
[7)Heng, 2)Linz, 4)V-d'A]

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Jearl Miles-Clark *
2. Joetta Clark *
3. Meredith Valmon *
4. Hazel Clark [1)NC, 4)USA, 7)Good]
5. Kathi Rounds [4)EugGP, 5)US, 1)Stut]
6. Michelle DiMuro-Ave [6)EugGP, 6)US, 2)Stut]
7. Nicole Teter [1)SAC, 1)adi/O, 5)EugGP]
8. Suzy Hamilton [1)Drake, 1)Mad, 1)Luc]
9. Regina Jacobs [1)Chris, 1)Melb, 1)Stan]
10. Amy Wickus [2)Drake, 2)Mad, 5)Luc]

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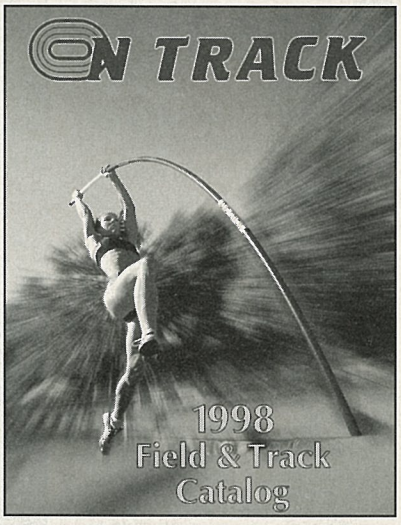
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5. Gebrselassie	12:39.36			

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2. Szabo	14:31.48			
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1500 METERS/MILE

Masterkova Rebounds

NUMBER ONE: So invincible in the Olympic season, Masterkova lost last year to Achilles surgery, but bounced back in almost perfect fashion this time around. She did lose one race by a hair to Szabo in the year's fastest time, but overall handled the Romanian easily, 4–1.

U.S. RIVALS HAMILTON & JACOBS had fabulous seasons, but the world quality was so good they couldn't quite crack the Rankings. Hamilton did bust through the 4:00 barrier at last and stopped Jacobs' U.S. string of No. 1s at 4.

1. SVETLANA MASTERKOVA (Rus)
(1/17/68, 5-7¾/130)
4:32.03y ..... 1)Linz GP
4:01.37 ..... 1)Oslo GP
3:58.42 ..... 1)Rome GP
4:20.39y ..... 1)Goodwill
4:28.27y .. 1)Sheffield GP
3:57.11 .... 2)Monaco GP
3:59.83 ..... 1)Zürich GP
4:11.91 ..... 1)Euro Ch
3:58.95 ... 1)Brussels GP
4:03.19 ..... 1)Berlin GP
4:03.79 ..... 1)GP Final
4:09.41(A) . 1)World Cup

2. GABRIELA SZABO (Rom)
(11/14/75, 5-2¼/90)
4:07.74i ..... 3)Stuttgart
4:27.27yi ..... 1)Liévin
4:02.91 ... 1)Hengelo GP
4:19.30y .... 1)Bellinzona
4:03.18 ..... 3)Oslo GP
3:59.25 ..... 2)Rome GP
3:56.97 .... 1)Monaco GP
4:00.53 ..... 2)Zürich GP
4:05.82 ..... 4)GP Final

3. KUTRE DULECHA (Eth)
(8/22/77, 5-6/106)
4:06.69 ..... 2)Doha GP
4:03.93 ... 2)Hengelo GP
4:01.80 ..... 2)Oslo GP
4:00.86 ..... 6)Rome GP
4:01.71 ..... 1)Nice GP
3:58.38 .... 7)Monaco GP
4:01.00 ..... 4)Zürich GP
4:00.47 ... 3)Brussels GP
4:04.70 ..... 3)Berlin GP
4:04.72 ..... 2)GP Final

4. CARLA SACRAMENTO (Por)
(12/10/71, 5-6/117)
4:20.81 ..... 1)Budapest
4:10.45 ..... 1)Lisbon
4:05.82 ..... 9)Oslo GP
3:59.89 ..... 4)Rome GP
4:02.10 ..... 2)Nice GP
4:17.43 ..... 1)Ibero-A Ch
3:57.71 .... 4)Monaco GP
4:00.60 ..... 3)Zürich GP
4:12.62 ..... 2)Euro Ch
4:23.41y 1)Lausanne GP
4:00.08 ... 2)Brussels GP
4:05.82 ..... 3)GP Final
4:11.66(A) . 3)World Cup

5. JACKLINE MARANGA (Ken)
(12/66/77, 5-1/104)
4:05.94 ..... 1)Doha GP
4:14.65 .... 6)Eugene GP
4:00.81 . 1)Bratislava GP
4:12.38(A) ..... 1)Ken Ch
4:04.23 ..... 5)Oslo GP
4:00.66 ..... 5)Rome GP
4:02.27 ..... 3)Nice GP
4:25.62y ..... 4)Goodwill
4:18.47 ..... 2)JJK GP
4:29.93y . 3)Sheffield GP
3:57.41 .... 3)Monaco GP
4:02.95 ..... 9)Zürich GP
4:11.75 ..... 1)Afr Ch
4:24.00y 2)Lausanne GP
4:01.88 ... 5)Brussels GP
4:05.83 ..... 6)Berlin GP
4:06.53 ..... 5)GP Final
4:10.30(A) . 2)World Cup
4:05.27 ..... 1)Comm G

6. SONIA O'SULLIVAN (Ire)
(11/28/69, 5-8/117)
4:08.62 ..... 1)Sydney
4:01.05 . 2)Bratislava GP
4:03.58 ..... 4)Oslo GP
4:02.78 ..... 9)Rome GP
4:26.19y ..... 5)Goodwill
4:02.63 ..... 7)Zürich GP
4:01.08 ... 4)Brussels GP

7. GETE WAMI (Eth)
(12/11/74, 4-11/99)
4:09.01 ..... 6)Dortmund
4:01.47 ..... 2)Stuttgart
4:02.83 ..... 8)Zürich GP
4:02.29 ... 6)Brussels GP

8. NAOMI MUGO (Ken)
(1/2/77, 5-4¼/110)
4:08.30 ..... 3)Doha GP
4:08.30 . 4)Bratislava GP
4:14.00(A) ..... 2)Ken Ch
4:04.78 ..... 6)Oslo GP
4:03.83 ..... 10)Rome GP
4:04.17 ..... 7)Nice GP
4:02.68 ..... 3)Stuttgart
4:29.05y . 2)Sheffield GP
3:58.12 .... 5)Monaco GP
4:05.95 ..... 12)Zürich GP
4:24.43y 4)Lausanne GP
4:02.74 ... 8)Brussels GP
4:05.21 ..... 5)Berlin GP
4:09.20 ..... 6)GP Final
4:07.95 ..... 4)Comm G

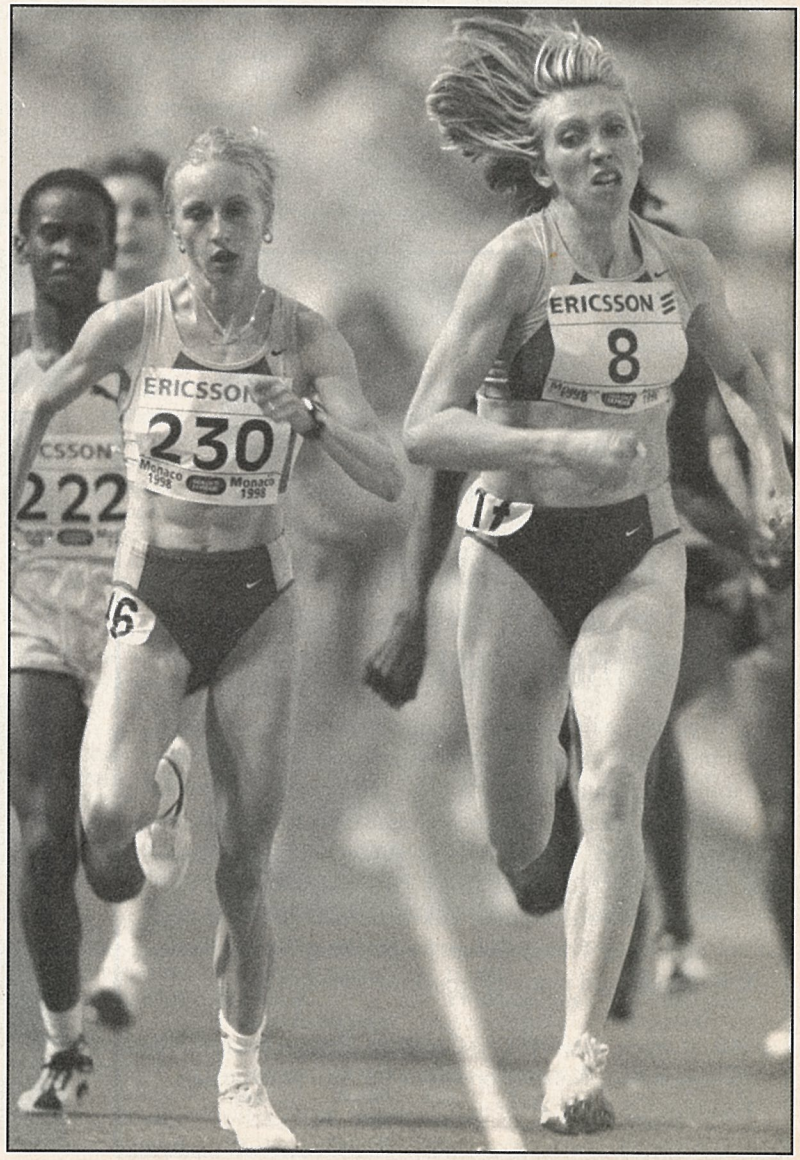
9. ANITA WEYERMANN (Swi)
(12/8/77, 5-5¼/110)
4:23.92y .... 2)Bellinzona
4:05.56 ..... 8)Oslo GP
4:00.88 ..... 7)Rome GP
3:58.20 .... 6)Monaco GP
4:11.62 ..... 13)Zürich GP
4:13.06 ..... 3)Euro Ch
4:24.00y 3)Lausanne GP
4:05.51 . 11)Brussels GP
4:04.25 ..... 2)Berlin GP
4:11.48 ..... 7)GP Final

10. VIOLETA SZEKELY (Rom)
(3/26/65, 5-5¼/110)
4:15.54i ..... 3)Euro Ind
4:10.32i .. 3)Sindelfingen
4:04.57 . 3)Bratislava GP
3:59.67 ..... 3)Rome GP
4:02.74 ..... 4)Nice GP
4:03.73 .. 12)Monaco GP
4:01.91 ..... 5)Zürich GP
4:14.66 ..... 5)Euro Ch
4:02.65 ... 7)Brussels GP
4:13.08 ..... 8)GP Final

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Suzy Hamilton**
[1)EugGP, 1)US, 3)Good]
2. **Regina Jacobs**
[2)EugGP,1)EBos, 2)Good]
3. **Amy Wickus**
[4)EugGP, 2)US, 8)Good]
4. **Alisa Harvey**
[3)USA, 7)Good, 2)Falm]
5. **Elva Dryer**
[3)adi/Or, 4)US, 9)Good]
6. **Shayne Culpepper**
[5)adi/O, 5)EugGP, 6)US]
7. **Debbie Marshall**
[2)DedII, 5)US, 6)JJK]
8. **Amy Rudolph**
[1)DedII, 4)Bellin, 2)Linz]
9. **Fran ten Bensel**
[1)DedIII, 7)US, 4)EBos]
10. **Cheri Kenah**
[1)Penn, 2)DedIII, 3)Linz]

Masterkova (r) lost the year's fastest 1500 to Szabo in Monaco but was a clear No. 1.



ALLSPORT/MARK THOMPSON

3000 METERS

Szabo Repeats

NUMBER ONE: The usual suspects were rounded up here in the classic distance for bridging the 1500 and 5000 types. As in '97, Szabo was perfect, highlighting her season with the year's fastest time. Her impressive 8:24.31 in Paris moved her to No. 3 on the all-time non-Chinese list.

DESPITE BEING THE GP FINAL DISTANCE, the 3K didn't get a lot of play in the big European meets, but runner-up Ouaziz was there whenever the race was offered.

1. GABRIELA SZABO (Rom)
(11/14/75, 5-2¼/90)
8:49.96i ..... 1)Euro Ind
8:52.19 ..... 1)Budapest
8:24.31 ..... 1)Paris GP
9:00.54(A) . 1)World Cup

2. ZOHRA OUAZIZ (Mor)
(12/20/69, 5-5¼/110)
8:47.1 ..... 1)Dijon
8:30.43 ... 1)Hengelo GP
8:28.66 ..... 1)Nice GP
8:27.26 ..... 2)Paris GP
8:53.75 ..... 1)Afr Ch
8:40.45 ..... 2)GP Final
9:01.35(A) . 2)World Cup

3. GETE WAMI (Eth)
(12/11/74, 4-11/99)
8:44.15 ... 2)Hengelo GP
8:33.84 ..... 3)Nice GP
8:29.24 ..... 3)Paris GP
8:40.11 ..... 1)GP Final

4. MARIYA PANTYUKHOVA (Rus)
(8/14/74, 5-10/132)
8:51.44i ..... 3)Genoa
8:44.78 ..... 1)Rovereto
8:42.11 ..... 1)Rieti GP
8:47.77 ..... 3)GP Final

5. PAULA RADCLIFFE (GB)
(12/17/73, 5-7¾/112)
8:38.84 ... 1)Sheffield GP

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Regina Jacobs**
[1)JJK GP, 3)WCp]
2. **Cheri Kenah**
[2)JJK GP, 6)Sheff GP]
3. **Amy Rudolph**
[2)US In, 2)Cork, 5)JJK]
4. **Nnenna Lynch**
[8)US In, 7)Cork, 4)JJK]
5. **Elva Dryer**
[1)US In, 6)JJK GP]

5000 METERS

Ouaziz Edges Szabo

NUMBER ONE: There were multiple candidates for the top spot, none of whom had an unblemished record. At first glance, with Euro and World Cup wins, O'Sullivan looked like a natural, but none of the other three contenders were at the latter meet, and neither of the Africans could be at the former, so her two bad losses really hurt her.

CONSISTENTLY QUICK, and with a 2–0 record over both Wami and O'Sullivan, Ouaziz was finally given the top in a narrow decision over Szabo, who beat the Moroccan the only time they met, but didn't have the overall time credentials.

1. ZOHRA OUAZIZ (Mor)
(12/20/69, 5-5¼/110)
14:42.11 . 1)St.-Denis GP
14:44.35 ... 1)Rome GP
14:40.19 .... 1)Stock GP
14:32.08 .... 2)Berlin GP
15:08.03 ..... 1)TOTO
2. GABRIELA SZABO (Rom)
(11/14/75, 5-2¼/90)
15:07.39i ..... 1)Gent
15:08.31 ..... 2)Euro Ch
14:31.48 .... 1)Berlin GP
3. GETE WAMI (Eth)
(12/11/74, 4-11/99)
14:44.61 . 2)St.-Denis GP
14:44.51 ... 2)Rome GP
14:36.08 .... 3)Berlin GP
4. SONIA O'SULLIVAN (Ire)
(11/28/69, 5-8/117)
15:03.28 1)Melbourne GP
15:03.76 ... 3)St.-Denis GP
15:06.50 ..... 1)Euro Ch
14:51.61 .... 4)Berlin GP
16:24.52(A) . 1)World Cup
5. PAULA RADCLIFFE (GB)
(12/17/73, 5-7¾112)
15:06.96 . 4)St.-Denis GP
15:06.87 .... 1)Euro Cup
14:51.27 . 2)Stockholm GP
6. TEGLA LOROUPE (Ken)
(5/5/71, 5-1¼/106)
14:58.77 . 3)Stockholm GP
14:57.77 .... 6)Berlin GP
15:10.52 ..... 2)TOTO
7. JULIA VAQUERO (Spa)
(9/18/70, 5-3/104)
15:39.10 .... 2)Budapest
15:02.72 ... 4)Rome GP
15:02.30 . 4)Stockholm GP
14:55.91 .... 5)Berlin GP
8. MARTA DOMÍNGUEZ (Spa)
(11/3/75, 5-4¼/115)
15:06.93 ... 1)Barakaldo
14:59.49 ... 3)Rome GP
15:21.97 ..... 1)Spa Ch
15:10.54 ..... 3)Euro Ch
15:21.94 .. 10)Berlin GP
9. WANG CHUNMEI (Chn)
(4/10/76)
15:46.23 ..... 1)Beijing
15:07.16 ... 5)Rome GP
15:49.48 ..... 1)Asian Ch
16:08.78 ..... 1)Chn Ch
10. REGINA JACOBS (US)
(3/28/63, 5-6/112)
15:32.31 ..... 1)USATF
14:52.49 ... 1)Brunswick
16:26.24(A) . 2)World Cup

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Regina Jacobs *
2. Libbie Hickman
[2)USA, 2)Goodwill]
3. Amy Rudolph
[3)US, 7)Good, 8)Stock]
4. Nnenna Lynch
[2)EugGP, 4)US, 6)Good]
5. Cheri Kenah
[3)Osaka, 5)US, 5)Good]
6. Mary Slaney
[1)Eug, 1)EugGP, dnf)US]
7. Deena Drossin
[3)SAC, 10)US, 6)Stock]
8. Jen Rhines
[2)ad/O, 2)Bruns, 1)Mont]
9. Amy Skieresz
[1)NC Ind, 1)P10, 1)NC]
10. Clare Taylor
[2)Eugene, 6)USA]

10,000 METERS

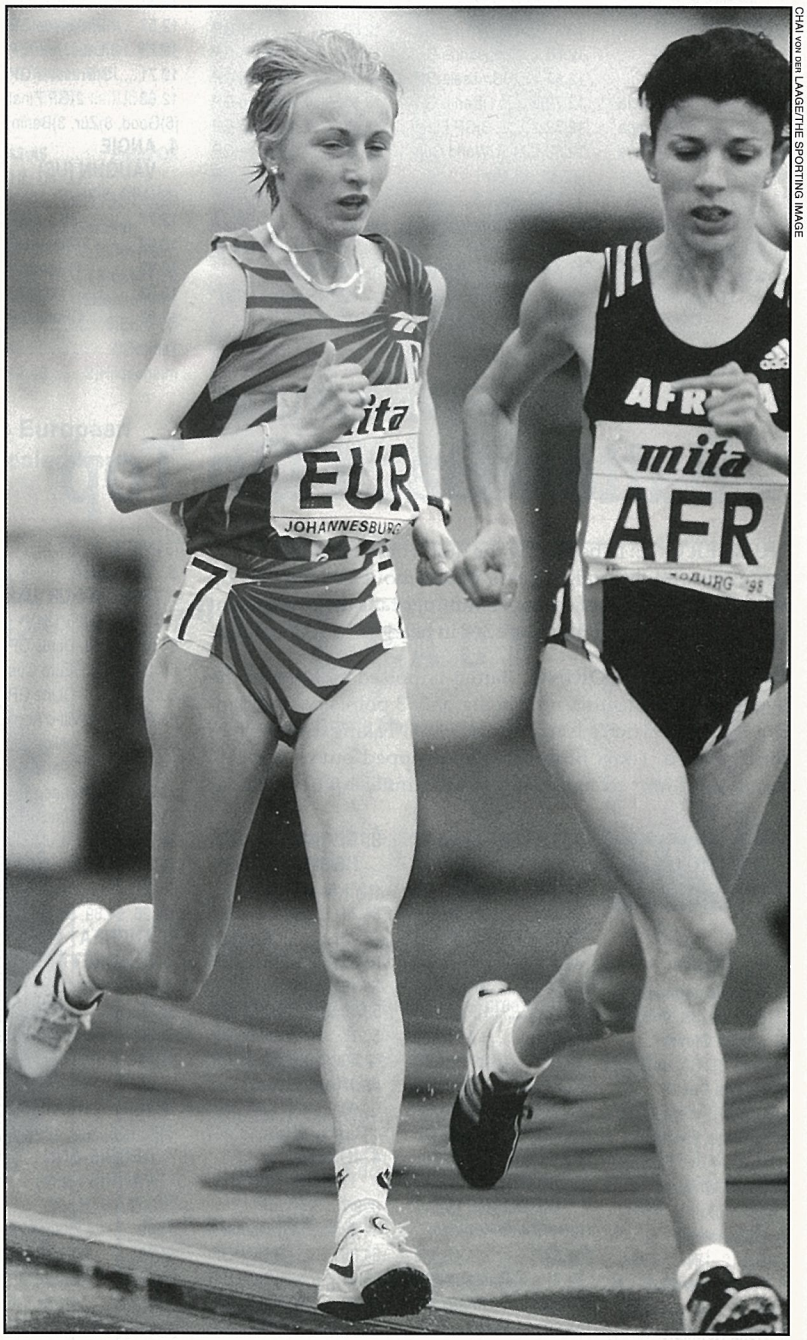
O'Sullivan's Debut

NUMBER ONE: There were more world-class 10Ks staged in Japan than in the rest of the world together, but in the final analysis it was one race in Europe—the European Championships—which held the most sway, Japanese champ Kawakami's race in Lisbon providing the needed bridge.

RIBEIRO WAS FASTEST on the year, but her hyper-quick race at home couldn't overcome her defeat at the hands of O'Sullivan in the Euros. For the Irishwoman, it was her first-ever race at a distance that long. It wasn't too long.

1. SONIA O'SULLIVAN (Ire)
(11/28/69, 5-8/117)
31:29.33 ..... 1)Euro Ch
2. FERNANDA RIBEIRO (Por)
(6/23/69, 5-3¼/106)
30:48.06 .. 1)Euro Chall
31:32.42 ..... 2)Euro Ch
3. PAULA RADCLIFFE (GB)
(12/17/73, 5-7¾/112)
30:48.58 .. 2)Euro Chall
31:36.51 ..... 5)Euro Ch
4. LIDIA SIMON (Rom)
(9/4/73, 5-1¾/97)
31:32.64 ..... 3)Euro Ch
5. OLIVERA JEVTIC (Yug)
(7/24/77, 5-8½/115)
31:34.26 ..... 4)Euro Ch
6. DONG ZHAOXIA (Chn)
(11/13/74, 5-8/132)
32:07.49 ..... 1)Kobe
7. YUKO KAWAKAMI (Jpn)
(8/1/75, 4-11¾/99)
32:07.76 ..... 2)Kobe
31:39.35 ..... 1)Naruto
32:05.49 ..... 3)Lisbon
32:39.64 ..... 1)Jpn Ch
8. CHIEMI TAKAHASHI (Jpn)
(2/16/76, 5-3/95)
32:08.01 ..... 3)Kobe
31:27.57 ..... 1)Sendai
32:32.99 ..... 2)Asian Ch
9. LEAH MALOT (Ken)
(6/7/72, 5-6/101)
32:04.64 ..... 1)Lisbon
10. ESTHER WANJIRU (Ken)
(3/27/77, 5-3¾/93)
32:12.33 ..... 4)Kobe
31:52.98 ..... 1)Mito
33:40.6(A) ..... 1)Ken Ch
33:40.13 ..... 1)Comm G

U.S. RANKINGS
1. Lynn Jennings
[1)USA]
2. Shelly Steely
[3)Penn, 3)US, 4)Good]
3. Jen Rhines
[2)USA, 5)Good]
4. Kristen Beaney
[4)USA, 7)Good]
5. Jenny Crain
[1)SAC, 5)US, dnf)Good]
6. Nnenna Lynch
[1)PennR]
7. Amy Skieresz
[3)SAC, 1)NCAA]
8. Marty Shue
[1)RalR, 6)US, 8)Good]
9. Kelly Cordell
[2)SAC, 11)US, 2)Montr]
10. Susannah Beck
[4)SAC]



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

A World Cup win over Ouaziz (r) guaranteed the top spot in the 3K for Szabo. They reversed that order in the 5K standings and the Romanian also added a No. 2 position in the 1500 for a great triple.

100-METER HURDLES

Alozie From Nowhere

NUMBER ONE: Alozie's progress over the last few years has been incredible. Just a 13.30 hurdler in '96, she improved to 12.96 last year, then dropped all the way to a world-leading 12.44 (twice) this season. Despite losing the GP Final, she was a clear No. 1, winning 15 of 17 races.

ONLY 4TH in the USATF meet, Morrison otherwise had a terrific season, winning more GP races, 7, than any other runner. But she lost to Freeman 5–9 head-to-head. Two-time defender Ludmila Engquist was knocked out by injury.

1. GLORY ALOZIE (Ngr)
(12/30/77, 5-5$^{3}/_{4}$/134)
12.85 ..... 1)Valencia
12.88 ..... 1)Salamanca
12.91 ..... 1)Vilamoura
13.03 ..... 1)Baza
12.66 ..... 1)Maia
12.46 ..... 1)Salamanca
12.81 ..... 1)Barcelona
12.54 ..... 1)Paris GP
12.44 ..... 1)Monaco GP
12.72 ..... =4)Zürich GP
12.77 ..... 1)Afr Ch
12.56 ... 1)Lausanne GP
12.44 ..... 1)Brussels GP
12.72 ..... 1)Berlin GP
12.72 ..... 3)GP Final
12.58w(A) 1)World Cup
[12.60, 12.4hw]

2. MICHELLE FREEMAN (Jam)
(5/5/69, 5-7/134)
12.93 ..... 1)Rio GP
12.72 ..... 1)Doha GP
12.85 ..... 3)Goodwill
12.69 ..... 2)JJK GP
12.85 ..... 3)Paris GP
12.80 ..... 2)Sheffield GP
12.65 ..... 3)Monaco GP
12.52 ..... 1)Zürich GP
12.56 ... 2)Lausanne GP
12.70 ..... 2)Brussels GP
12.74 ..... 2)Berlin GP
12.56 ..... 1)GP Final
[3)Jam Ch, 4)Oslo, 8)Rom]

3. MELISSA MORRISON (US)
(7/9/71, 5-4$^{1}/_{2}$/115)
12.82 ..... 1)Osaka GP
12.90 ..... 2)Seville GP
12.71 .... 1)St.-Denis GP
12.98 ..... 4)USATF
12.65 ..... 1)Linz GP
12.67 ..... 1)Oslo GP
12.69 ..... 2)Rome GP
12.78 ..... 1)Nice GP
12.75 ..... 3)JJK GP
12.61 ..... 2)Paris GP
12.74 ..... 1)Sheffield GP
12.53 .. 1)Stockholm GP
12.57 ..... 2)Monaco GP
12.74 ... 3)Lausanne GP
12.71 ..... 3)Brussels GP
12.63 ..... 2)GP Final
[6)Good, 8)Zür, 3)Berlin]

4. ANGIE VAUGHN (US)
(11/4/76, 5-7/140)
12.77 ..... 2)Linz GP
12.69 ..... 1)Rome GP
12.72 ..... 1)Goodwill
12.63 ..... 1)JJK GP
12.91 ..... 4)Paris GP
12.67 .. 2)Stockholm GP
12.84 ... 5)Lausanne GP
13.10 ..... 8)GP Final
12.67w(A) .. 2)World Cup
[1)NC, 2)USA, 7h)Zürich]

5. DIONNE ROSE (Jam)
(11/7/69, 5-6/115)
12.79 ..... 1)Jam Ch
12.74 ..... 4)Monaco GP
12.64 ..... 2)Zürich GP
12.64 ..... 1)CAC Ch
12.81 ... 4)Lausanne GP
12.95 ..... 6)Berlin GP
12.84 ..... 5)GP Final
12.78w(A) .. 4)World Cup
[5)JJK, 5)Stock, 5)Bruss]

6. GILLIAN RUSSELL (Jam)
(9/28/73, 5-5$^{3}/_{4}$/123)
12.78 ..... 2)Goodwill
12.66 ..... 2)CAC Ch
12.82 ..... 4)GP Final
12.70 ..... 1)Comm G
[4)Rome, 3)Stock, 5)Berl]

7. KATIE ANDERSON (Can)
(1/9/68, 5-4$^{1}/_{4}$/134)
12.76w ... 2)Eugene GP
12.79 ..... 4)JJK GP
12.75 ..... 1)Leverkusen
12.66 ..... 3)Zürich GP
12.85 ..... 4)Brussels GP
[7)Stock, 7)GPF, 3)Comm]

8. SVETLA DIMITROVA (Bul)
(1/27/70, 5-7$^{3}/_{4}$/130)
12.78 ..... 1)Bellinzona
12.84 ..... 4)Stuttgart
12.56 ..... 1)Euro Ch
12.86 ..... 4)Berlin GP
[4)Rio, 8)Nice, 7)Bruss]

9. BRIGITA BUKOVEC (Slo)
(5/21/70, 5-6/126)
12.77 ..... 1)Slo Ch
12.79 ..... 5)Monaco GP
12.65 ..... 2)Euro Ch
12.89 ..... 6)GP Final
[5)Good, 5h)Zür, 7)Berl]

10. CHERYL DICKEY (US)
(12/12/66, 5-5/130)
12.86 ..... 2)Doha GP
12.83w ... 3)Eugene GP
12.72 ..... 1h)USATF
12.82 ..... 1) "
12.76 ..... 2)Oslo GP
12.86 ..... 5)Rome GP
[5)Nice, 7)Good, 9)Bruss]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Melissa Morrison** *
2. **Angie Vaughn** *
3. **Cheryl Dickey** *
4. **Miesha McKelvy** [=4)NC, 3)USA, 4)Good]
5. **Anjanette Kirkland** [7)USA, 1)Malmö, 7)Zür]
6. **Kim Carson** [1)SAC, 1)Drak, dnf-h)US]
7. **Tonya Lawson** [7)Eug, 6)USA, 2)Malm]
8. **Michelle Johnson** [2)SAC, 1)TxInv, 6)Eug]
9. **Trecia Roberts** [3)Penn, 8)USA, 1)Flag]
10. **Elisha Brewer** [6h)NC, 5)USA, 3)Flag]

400-METER HURDLES

Batten Back On Top

NUMBER ONE: In becoming the first woman ever to score in this event in eight straight years, Batten moved back to the top spot after two years of seeing Hemmings take the preeminent position. Batten beat Bidouane 3–2 in head-to-head meetings.

IN ALL-TIME SCORING, Batten is poised to become the event's all-time leader, now being only 3 points behind Sandra Farmer-Patrick's leading total of 68. Taking a year's maternity leave, Tonja Buford-Bailey dropped out of the U.S. Ranks after four straight years in the runner-up position.

1. KIM BATTEN (US)
(3/29/69, 5-7/126)
54.90 .... 2)St.-Denis GP
53.61 ..... 1)USATF
54.08 ..... 1)Bellinzona
53.70 ..... 2)Linz GP
53.28 ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
53.17 ..... 1)Nice GP
54.62 ..... 3)Goodwill
53.06 ..... 1)Paris GP
54.84 ..... 1)Malmö
52.74 ..... 1)Monaco GP
52.84 ..... 1)Zürich GP
53.99 ... 2)Lausanne GP
53.72 ..... 2)Brussels GP
53.17(A) ... 3)World Cup

2. NEZHA BIDOUANE (Mor)
(3/18/69, 5-8$^{1}/_{2}$/143)
54.89 ..... 1)Caorle
54.71 .. 2)Gateshead GP
53.90 ..... 3)Paris GP
53.23 ..... 2)Monaco GP
53.31 ..... 2)Zürich GP
54.24 ..... 1)Afr Ch
53.43 ..... 1)Brussels GP
52.96(A) .. 1)World Cup

3. DEON HEMMINGS (Jam)
(10/9/68, 5-9$^{1}/_{4}$/134)
54.21 .... 1)St.-Denis GP
54.20 ..... 1)Goodwill
53.30 ..... 2)Paris GP
54.48 ..... 6)Monaco GP
53.43 ..... 3)Zürich GP
53.27 ... 1)Lausanne GP
54.69 ..... 5)Brussels GP
53.03(A) .. 2)World Cup
54.96 ..... 1)TOTO
[1)JamCh, 1)Hech, 1)CAC]

4. IONELA TÎRLEA (Rom)
(2/9/76, 5-5/110)
54.78 ..... 4)Vill-d'Ascq
54.68 ..... 3)Nice GP
53.94 ..... 4)Paris GP
54.40 ..... 5)Monaco GP
53.48 ..... 4)Zürich GP
53.37 ..... 1)Euro Ch
54.14 ... 3)Lausanne GP
54.01 ..... 4)World Cup
56.04 ..... 2)TOTO
[54.26, 54.89, 55.14]

5. TATYANA TERESHCHUK (Ukr)
(10/11/69, 5-8$^{1}/_{2}$/134)
54.91 .... 3)St.-Denis GP
54.15 ..... 1)Euro Cup
53.67 ..... 1)Linz GP
53.40 ..... 2)Vill-d'Ascq
55.13 ..... 4)Nice GP
55.30 ..... 7)Paris GP
53.80 ..... 4)Monaco GP
53.57 ..... 5)Zürich GP
54.07 ..... 2)Euro Ch
54.39 ... 4)Lausanne GP
53.85 ..... 3)Brussels GP
[54.26, 54.89, 55.14]

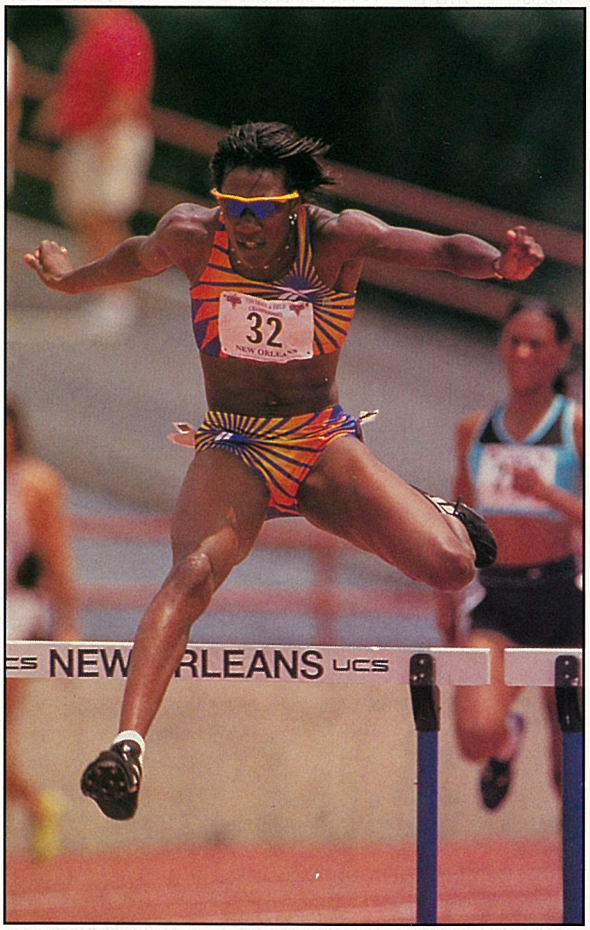
6. ANDREA BLACKETT (Bar)
(1/24/76, 5-3/112)
54.06 ..... 2)Nice GP
54.39 .. 1)Gateshead GP
53.74 ..... 3)Monaco GP
54.04 ..... 6)Zürich GP
53.91 ..... 1)Comm G
[5)Paris, 5)Laus, 4)Bruss]

7. DEBBIE-ANN PARRIS (Jam)
(3/24/73, 5-3$^{3}/_{4}$106)
54.49 ..... 2)Goodwill
54.96 ..... 6)Paris GP
54.88 ..... 7)Monaco GP
55.15 ..... 3)CAC Ch
[5)Nice, 8)Zür, 3)TOTO]

8. SILVIA RIEGER (Ger)
(11/14/70, 5-8$^{3}/_{4}$/121)
54.93 ..... 3)Euro Cup
54.45 ..... 3)Euro Ch
55.41 ..... 7)Brussels GP
54.22(A) .. 5)World Cup
[2)Jen, 2)Heng, 1)GerCh]

9. YEKATERINA BAKHVALOVA (Rus)
(3/8/72, 5-8$^{3}/_{4}$/132)
54.72 ..... 2)Euro Cup
54.76 ..... 3)Linz GP
54.83 ..... 5)Vill-d'Ascq
55.06 ... 6)Lausanne GP
[6)Good, 8)Par, 4h)EurCh]

10. SUSAN SMITH (Ire)
(9/14/71, 5-6/132)
54.93 ..... 2)Hechtel
54.31 ..... 7)Zürich GP
55.61 ..... 8)Euro Ch
56.04 ... 8)Lausanne GP
55.10 ..... 6)Brussels GP
[6)St.-D, 5)Linz, 8)Laus]



VICTOR SALER/PHOTO RUN

Batten's fifth straight USATF win also helped make her top American for the fifth time.

10K WALK

Sidoti A Giant Killer

NUMBER ONE: Just as she did in '97, the diminutive Sidoti had her bad days, but by winning the biggest race of the year she was clear enough as No. 1.

TEAMMATE ALFRIDI almost repeated as No. 2, but a solid Euro Cup win by WR holder Ryashkina gave that spot to the Russian. Amazingly, for Ryashkina it marks the first ranking spot since she set the all-time track best way back in '90.

1. ANNA RITA SIDOTI (Ita)
(7/25/69, 4-11/92)
50:10(A) .... 3)S Am Cup
dnf ..... –)Euro Cup
44:08 ..... 2)Sesto SG
43:31 ..... 1)La Coruña
dnf ..... –)Senigallia
42:49 ..... 1)Euro Ch

2. NADEZHDA RYASHKINA (Rus)
(1/22/67, 5-3/104)
42:25 ..... 1)Adler
43:06 ..... 1)Euro Cup
44:26t ..... 2)Goodwill
43:37 ..... 7)Euro Ch

3. ERICA ALFRIDI (Ita)
(2/22/68, 5-6/112)
43:30 ..... 9)Euro Cup
44:14 ..... 3)Sesto SG
44:51 ..... 1)Barcelona
43:44 ..... 3)La Coruña
44:31 ..... 3)Senigallia
42:54 ..... 2)Euro Ch

4. MÁRIA ROSZA-URBANÍK (Hun)
(2/12/67, 5-6/119)
43:08 ..... 2)Euro Cup
44:20 ..... 4)Sesto SG
44:04 ..... 2)Senigallia
42:59 ..... 4)Euro Ch

5. SUSANA FEITOR (Por)
(1/28/75, 5-3/115)
43:42 ..... 1)Rio Maior
42:55 ..... 3)Euro Ch

6. MARIA VASCO (Spa)
(12/26/75, 5-1¼/97)
47:23 ..... 1)Badalona
46:06 ..... 2)Mollet des V
45:15 ..... 3)Spa Ch
43:23 ..... 7)Euro Cup
43:36 ..... 2)La Coruña
43:02 ..... 5)Euro Ch

7. KATARZYNA RADTKE (Pol)
(8/31/69, 5-3¼/97)
43:18 ..... 5)Euro Cup
45:48 ..... 1)Pol Ch
43:09 ..... 6)Euro Ch
42:33 ..... 1)Gdansk

8. YELENA NIKOLAYEVA (Rus)
(2/1/66, 5-6/130)
45:03 ..... 2)Barcelona
43:52t ..... 1)Goodwill
44:21 ..... 1)Cassino

9. TAMARA KOVALENKO (Rus)
(6/5/64)
43:13 ..... 4)Adler
43:14 ..... 4)Euro Cup
42:46 ..... 2)Rus Ch

10. OLGA KARDOPOLTSEVA(Blr)
(9/11/66, 5-5/119)
44:57 ..... 2)Rio Maior
43:26 ..... 8)Euro Cup
43:05 ... 1)Eisenhüttenst
43:38 ..... 8)Euro Ch
42:59 ..... 2)Gdansk
42:40 ..... 2)Hildesheim

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Joanne Dow**
[2)DC, 1)US, 3)Good]
2. **Michelle Rohl**
[1)DC, 2)US, 4)Good]
3. **Debbi Lawrence**
[3)USA, 5)Good]
4. **Victoria Herazo**
[4)USA, dq)Good]
5. **Susan Armenta**
[2)Ber, 1)PAlto, 5)US]
6. **Cheryl Rellinger**
[11)DC, 6)US, 2)NiagF]
7. **Gr. Eastler-Fishman**
[7)USA]
8. **Jill Zenner**
[4)DCI, 8)USA]
9. **Danielle Kirk**
[3)Ber, 15)LaCor, 9)US]
10. **Teresa Vaill**
[3)DCI, dnf)USA]



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

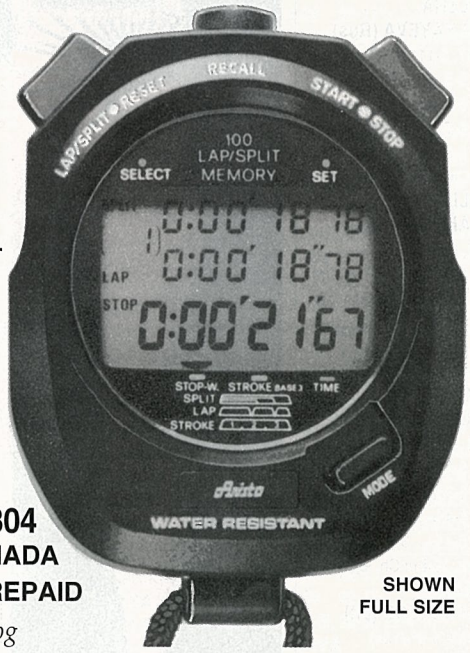
Sidoti's win at the European Championships sealed her repeat as No. 1.

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HIGH JUMP

Iagar Ascendant

NUMBER ONE: Still a relative newcomer to high jumping's upper altitudes (she was No. 7 in her debut in '97), Iagar laid a slam-dunk claim to the top spot. In a marathon season of 30 competitions she lost only 6 times. And on only 3 of those occasions was she actually outjumped.

ONLY WALLER could claim more than one win over Iagar, and despite a limited international season she became the first American to be No. 2 since Louise Ritter in '88 (the only American No. 1 ever was Mildred McDaniel in '56). Waller's only losses came to Iagar (a pair) and the previously unheralded Storbeck.

1. MONICA IAGAR (Rom)
(4/1/73, 6-1¼/150)
1.98i 6-6 ..... 1)Stuttgart
1.94i 6-4¼ ..... 1)Wuppertal
1.95i 6-4¾ ..... 1)Rom Ind
1.96i 6-5 .. 2)Banska Bystrica
1.95i 6-4¾ ..... 1)Balkan Ind
1.96i 6-5 ..... 1)Euro Ind
1.96i 6-5 ..... 2)Spala
1.92i 6-3½ .. 1)Sindelfingen
1.80(A)5-10¾ . 1)Pietersburg
2.01(A)6-7 ..... 1)Roodepoort
1.95 6-4¾ .... 1)Cape Town
1.96 6-5 ..... 2)Wörrstadt
1.98 6-6 ..... 1)Chaniá
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Bucharest
2.02 6-7½ ..... 1)Budapest
2.00 6-6¾ . 1)Bratislava GP
1.93 6-4 ..... 1)Ostrava
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Athens
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Bucharest
1.87 6-1½ ..... 2)Budapest
1.91 6-3¼ ..... 2)Zagreb
2.00 6-6¾ ..... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Hechtel
1.95 6-4¾ ..... 1)Rom Ch
1.98 6-6 .. 1)Stockholm GP
1.98 6-6 .... =1)Monaco GP
1.97 6-5½ ..... 1)Euro Ch
1.94 6-4¼ . 1)Lausanne GP
1.98(A)6-6 ..... 1)World Cup
1.90 6-2¾ ..... 2)TOTO

2. TISHA WALLER (US)
(12/1/70, 6-0/130)
2.01i 6-7 ..... 1)USATF Ind
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 1)Penn R
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Wörrstadt
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 1)USATF
1.97 6-5½ ..... 1)Goodwill
1.98 6-6 ..... 1)JJK GP
1.98 6-6 .... =1)Monaco GP
1.93 6-4 ..... 3)World Cup
1.93 6-4 ..... 1)TOTO
[1)Millr, 1)S Ray, 2)Stock GP]

3. HESTRIE STORBECK (SA)
(8/26/78, 6-¾)
1.95(A) 6-4¾ ... 1)Potchefstroom
1.80(A)5-10¾ .. 1)Joburg GP
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Rhede
1.96 6-5 ..... 1)Linz GP
1.92 6-3½ ..... 1)Afr Ch
1.96(A) 6-5 ..... 2)World Cup
1.91 6-3¼ ..... 1)Comm G
[6-4, 6-4, 6-4]

4. YELENA YELESINA (Rus)
(4/5/70, 6-½/126)
1.94i 6-4¼ ..... 2)Moscow
1.95i 6-4¾ ..... 1)Brno
1.98i 6-6 ..... 1)Russ Ind
1.96i 6-5 ..... 1)Spala
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 3)Chaniá
1.94 6-4¼ .. 1)Thessaloníki
1.94 6-4¼ ... 4)Monaco GP
[3)EurInd, 2)St-Den, 2)Bratis]

5. AMY ACUFF (US)
(7/14/75, 5-10¾/130)
1.94i 6-4¼ ..... 1)Chemnitz
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 1)Rehlingen
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 2)USATF
1.93 6-4 ..... =2)Goodwill
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 2)JJK GP
1.94 6-4¼ ... 5)Monaco GP
[7)Linz, =3)Vill-d'A, =7)Stock]

6. ALINA ASTAFEI (Ger)
(6/7/69, 5-11¼/132)
1.96i 6-5 ..... 1)Ger Ind
1.94i 6-4¼ ..... 2)Euro Ind
1.95 6-4¾ ..... 2)Euro Cup
1.95 6-4¾ ..... 3)Euro Ch
[1)Ger Ch, =7)Mon, 6)Wor Cp]

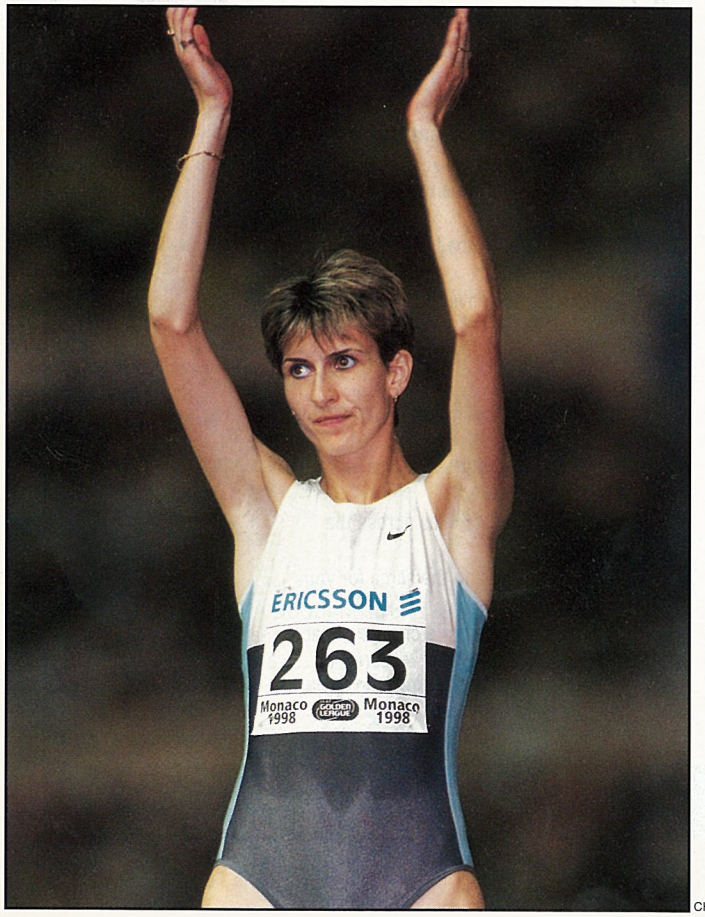
7. YELENA GULYAYEVA (Rus)
(8/14/67, 5-11¼/137)
1.96i 6-5 ..... 1)Banska Byst
1.98i 6-6 ..... 2)Russ Ind
2.01 6-7 ..... 2)Kalamata
1.96 6-5 ..... 2)Chaniá
[2)RusCh, 6)EurCh, 4)WorCp]

8. YULIA LYAKHOVA (Rus)
(7/8/77, 6-¾/132)
1.96i 6-5 ..... 3)Russ Ind
1.95 6-4¾ ..... 1)Krasnodar
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 1)Zagreb
1.94 6-4¼ . 2)Lausanne GP
[=2)Good, 3)Rus Ch, =7)Stock]

9. VIKTORIYA FYODOROVA (Rus)
(5/9/73, 5-10¾/128)
1.92 6-3½ ..... 1)Bellinzona
1.92 6-3½ ..... 1)Barcelona
1.95 6-4¾ ..... 1)Rus Ch
1.94 6-4¼ ... 3)Monaco GP
[4)Stock, 10)Eur Ch, =5)Laus]

10. NELE ZILINSKIENÉ (Lit)
(12/29/69, 5-9¾/134)
1.94 6-4¼ ..... 1)Kaunas
1.93 6-4 ..... 4)Goodwill
1.90 6-2¾ ..... 3)JJK GP
1.90 6-2¾ =3)Lausanne GP
[1)Lucer, =5)VdA; nq)Eur Ch]

The 25-year-old Iagar twice raised her lifetime best of 6-6¾ in '97; first to 6-7, then to 6-7½.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Tisha Waller ***
2. **Amy Acuff ***
3. **Erin Aldrich**
[1)NC In, 1)NC, 3)USA]
4. **Angela Bradburn-Spangler**
[2)US In, =6)USA, 5)Linz]
5. **Karol Jenkins**
[5)US In, 4)US, 6)Good]
6. **Gwen Wentland**
[2)Millr, 4)US In, 2)SAC]
7. **Lisa Coleman**
[6)US In, 5)US, 7)Good]
8. **Clare Look-Jaeger**
[1)Scott, 2)LBch, =6)US]
9. **Stacy Ann Grant**
[4)NC In, 5)NC, 8)US]
10. **Nakeitra Jones**
[5)NC In, 1)SEC, 7)NC]

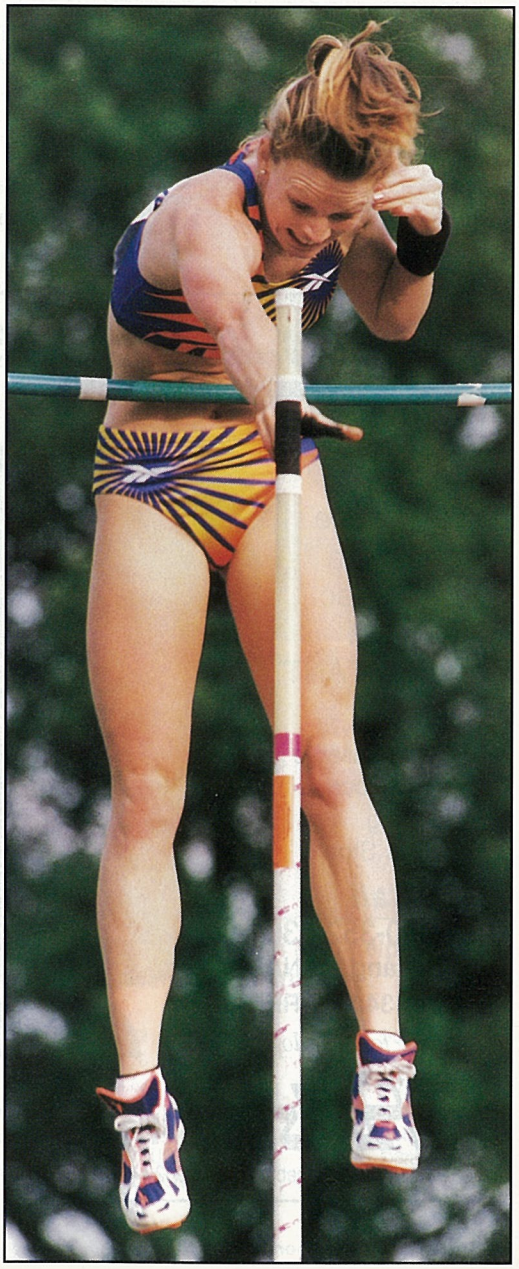
POLE

More WRs

NUMBER ONE: So dominant Down Under, George had her problems when she moved to the Northern Hemisphere, winning only 9 of 18 meets. Still, she was a clear choice for the top spot, as Balakhonova had an even worse winning percentage, and Belyakova picked inopportune times for her two no-heights.

WORLD RECORDS were once again a big part of the high-flying Aussie's repertoire. After producing history's first 15-foot vault, she then raised her WR to 15-¼ and 15-¾. And in the middle of that streak she also took the time to zip back indoors and raise that standard to 14-8. Last year's runner-up, Dragila was hot indoors, but had a limited international campaign, hampered by a broken bone in her foot.

George cracked the 15-foot barrier, then raised the record twice more.



VAULT

For George

1. EMMA GEORGE (Aus)
(11/1/74, 5-7/139)
4.42 14-6 ..... 1)Perth
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 1)Canberra
4.57 15-0 ... 1)N Shore City
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Melb GP
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Sydney
4.47i 14-8 ..... 1)Adelaide
4.58 15-¼ ..... 1)Aus Ch
4.59 15-¾ ..... 1)Brisbane
4.55i 14-11 ..... 1)Adelaide
4.45 14-7¼ .... 1)Osaka GP
4.50 14-9 ..... 1)Cottbus
4.37 14-4 . 1)Recklinghaus
nh .... –)Hengelo GP
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Milan
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 1)Prague
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Tartu
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 2)Prague
4.22 13-10 ..... 4)Zweibrück
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Turin
4.30 14-1¼ ... 2)Bellinzona
4.20 13-9¼ ..... 2)Linz GP
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 2)Goodwill
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 1)JJK GP
4.22 13-10 . 2)Sheffield GP
4.25 13-11¼ ... 2)Stock GP
4.24 13-11 ... 2)Salgótarján
4.20 13-9¼ ..... 1)Comm G

2. ANZHELA BALAKHONOVA (Ukr)
(12/18/72, 5-3¾/115)
4.45i 14-7¼ ..... 1)Euro Ind
4.37 14-4 ..... 1)Kiev
4.40 14-5¼ .... 1)Vilamoura
4.10 13-5¼ 5)Hengelo GP
4.30 14-1¼ ... 1)Bellinzona
4.20 13-9¼ ..... 4)Goodwill
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 2)JJK GP
4.10 13-5¼ ..... 6)Stock GP
4.31 14-1¾ ..... 1)Euro Ch
[nh)Lucerne, nh)Linz; 13-3¾]

3. YELENA BELYAKOVA (Rus)
(4/7/76, 5-10/121)
4.10i 13-5¼ ..... 1)Moscow
4.00i 13-1½ ..... 1)Moscow

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Stacy Dragila *
2. Kellie Suttle
[1)US, 6)Good, 4)JJK]
3. Melissa Price
[1)NC In, 4)US, 7)Good]
4. Kim Becker
[4)US In, 3)US, 10)Good]
5. Melanie Mueller
[3)US In, 5)USA, 6)JJK]
6. Jill Nuttbrock
[4)Mod, 1)SDi, 5)JJK]
7. Tiffany Smith
[2)US In, 2)SDi, 6)US]
8. Melissa Feinstein
[4)NC In, 1)P-10, =4)NC]
9. Bianca Maran
[1)BWest, 6)Mod, 1)NC]
10. Alicia Warlick
[3)P-10, =10)NC, 7)US]

4.38 14-4½ ..... 1)Goodwill
4.15 13-7¼ ..... 1)Rus Ch
4.30 14-1¼ ..... 1)Stock GP
4.00 13-1½ ..... 3)Rovereto
[nh)Eur Cup, nq)Eur Ch]

4. DANIELA BÁRTOVÁ (Cze)
(5/6/74, 5-4½/132)
4.41i 14-5½ ..... 1)Erfurt
4.43i 14-6¼ ..... 1)Cze Ind
4.40i 14-5¼ ..... 2)Euro Ind
4.46i 14-7½ ..... 1)Berlin
4.48i 14-8¼ 2)Sindelfingen
4.50 14-9 ..... 2)Cottbus
4.51 14-9½ . 1)Bratislava GP
4.45 14-7¼ ..... 1)Prague
4.35 14-3¼ ..... 1)Euro Cup
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Jablonec
[9)Good, 6)Sheff, nq)Eur Ch]

5. VALA FLOSADÓTTIR (Ice)
(2/16/78, 5-10¾/148)
4.42i 14-6 ..... 1)Bielefeld
4.44i 14-6¾ ..... 1)Swe Ind
4.40i 14-5¼ ..... 3)Euro Ind
4.36i 14-3½ ..... 1)Reykjavík
4.36 14-3½ ..... 1)Sopot
4.20 13-9¼ ..... 3)Goodwill
[3)Bratis, 9)Eur Ch, nh)Salg]

6. STACY DRAGILA (US)
(3/25/71, 5-7¾137)
4.48i 14-8¼ 1)Sindelfingen
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Fresno R
4.42(A) 14-6 ..... 1)Pocatello
4.40 14-5¼ ..... 1)Modesto
[1)Heng, 2)USA, nh)Good]

7. NASTJA RYSHICH (Ger)
(9/19/77, 5-7/130)
4.32 14-2 ... 3)Zweibrücken
4.42 14-6 ..... 1)Jockgrim
4.22 13-10 . 1)Sheffield GP
4.15 13-7¼ ..... =4)Euro Ch
[6)Heng, 3)Stock, =4)Salg]

8. NICOLE RIEGER (Ger)
(2/5/72, 5-6/121)
4.35 14-3¼ ..... 3)Cottbus
4.32 14-2 ... 2)Zweibrücken
4.36 14-3½ ..... 2)Jockgrim
4.20 13-9¼ ..... 3)Euro Cup
4.31 14-1¾ ..... 2)Euro Ch
[5)Eur Ind, 6)Heng, =7)Stock]

9. TATYANA GRIGORYEVA (Aus)
(10/8/75)
4.32i 14-2 ..... 2)Adelaide
4.35 14-3¼ ..... 2)Brisbane
4.32 14-2 . 2)Recklinghaus
4.32 14-2 ... 1)Zweibrücken
[5)Good, 3)JJK, 4)Stock]

10. ZSUZSA SZABÓ (Hun)
(5/6/73, 5-9¼/139)
4.30i 14-1¼ ..... 1)Hun Ind
4.30i 14-1¼ ..... 3)Berlin
4.25 13-11¼ ... 1)Debrecen
4.32 14-2 ..... 1)Kusoc M
[4)Bratis, 8)Eur Ch, 3)Salg]

LONG JUMP

Jones Makes It 3

NUMBER ONE: Finally starting to fulfill the jumping talent many suspected was long there, Jones used an almost-perfect season to move to the top in her first-ever ranking in this event, completing an historic triple (see box).

DRECHSLER HANDED JONES HER ONLY LOSS, but perhaps more significantly, she ran her point total in 17 appearances here to 150. That not only puts her ahead of Merlene Ottey's 200 total of 147 as the greatest woman scorer, but also surpasses Carl Lewis's 148 in the long jump for the highest total overall. All this before her 34th birthday.

1. MARION JONES (US)
(10/12/75, 5-10/140)
7.31 23-11¾ 1)Eugene GP
(for complete season, see box on p. 35)

2. HEIKE DRECHSLER (Ger)
(12/16/64, 5-11¼/150)
6.67 21-10¾ ... 4)Chemnitz
6.91w 22-8 ..... 1)Jena
6.87 22-6½ ... 3)Seville GP
6.68 21-11 ..... 3)Dortmund
6.89 22-7¼ . 2)Helsinki GP
6.95 22-9¾ ..... 2)Athens
6.58 21-7¼ ... 3)Bellinzona
6.94 22-9¼ ..... 1)Ger Ch
6.85 22-5¾ .. 1)Nuremberg
6.70 21-11¾ .. 4)Rome GP
6.89 22-7¼ .... 1)Gates GP
6.98 22-10¾ .. 1)Ingolstadt
6.91 22-8 ..... 3)Paris GP
7.12w 23-4½ . 1)Leverkusen
7.05 23-1¾ .... 2)Zürich GP
7.16 23-6 ..... 1)Euro Ch
6.78 22-3 ... 1)Brussels GP
6.99 22-11¼ .... 2)GP Final
7.07(A) 23-2½ ..... 1)World Cup

3. FIONA MAY (Ita)
(12/12/69, 5-11½/132)
6.89i 22-7¼ ..... 1)Piraeus
6.91i 22-8 ..... 1)Euro Ind
6.91 22-8 ..... 1)Rio GP
6.90 22-7¾ .... 1)Chemnitz
6.94w 22-9¼ .... 1)Vilamoura
6.90w 22-7¾ ..... 1)Padua
6.72 22-¾ ..... 1)Milan
6.68w 21-11 ..... 1)Caorle
7.03 23-¾ ..... 1)Athens
6.83 22-5 ..... 1)Turin
7.08 23-2¾ .... 1)Euro Cup
6.79 22-3½ .. 2)Nuremberg
6.89 22-7¼ .... 2)Rome GP
6.80 22-3¾ ..... 1)S Marino
6.92 22-8½ ..... 2)Paris GP
6.82 22-4½ ..... 2)Stock GP
6.82 22-4½ .... 5)Zürich GP
7.11 23-4 ..... 2)Euro Ch
6.83 22-5 ..... 2)Rieti GP
6.89 22-7¼ ..... 3)GP Final
(22-5i, 22-5i, 22-4½i)

4. IVA PRANDZHEVA (Bul)
(2/15/72, 5-8½/126)
6.67 21-10¾ ..... 2)Malmö
6.82 22-4½ ..... 1)Stock GP
6.83 22-5 ..... 4)Zürich GP
6.70 21-11¾ ... 2)Bruss GP
6.75 22-1¾ ..... 4)Rieti GP
6.74 22-1½ ..... 4)GP Final

5. NIURKA MONTALVO (Cub)
(6/4/68, 5-7/117)
6.70 21-11¾ ..... 1)Rhede
6.78 22-3 ..... 1)Madrid
6.57 21-6¾ .. 5)Nuremberg
6.86 22-6¼ .... 3)Ingolstadt
6.71 22-¼ ..... 3)Stock GP
6.92 22-8½ . 2)Leverkusen
6.85 22-5¾ .... 3)Zürich GP
6.67 21-10¾ ... 3)Bruss GP
6.93 22-9 ..... 1)Rieti GP
6.70 21-11¾ .... 5)GP Final

6. GUAN YINGNAN (Chn)
(4/25/77, 5-9¾/128)
6.61 21-8¼ .. 1)Guangzhou
6.82 22-4½ ..... 1)Shanghai
6.88 22-7 ..... 1)Chengdu
6.55 21-6 ..... 2)Mito
6.75 22-1¾ .... 1)Osaka GP
6.81w 22-4¼ ..... 1)Beijing
6.68 21-11 ..... 5)Athens
6.56 21-6¼ ..... 3)Turin
6.60 21-8 ..... 2)Bellinzona
6.91 22-8 ..... 1)Linz GP
6.83 22-5 ..... 1)Asian Ch
6.83 22-5 ..... 1)Chn Ch
6.74(A) 22-1½ ..... 3)World Cup

7. SHANA WILLIAMS (US)
(4/7/72, 5-9½/130)
6.79i 22-3½ .. 2)USATF Ind
6.97 22-10½ ..... 1)Penn R
6.61 21-8¼ ..... 2)Rio GP
6.59w 21-7½ ..... 1)Modesto
6.73w 22-1 .... 3)Eugene GP
6.90w 22-7¾ ..... 2)USATF
6.75 22-1¾ ..... 3)Linz GP
6.65 21-10 ... 4)Nuremberg
5.61 18-5 ..... 12)Rome GP
6.93w 22-9 ..... 1)Goodwill
6.78 22-3 ..... 1)JJK GP
6.71 22-¼ ..... 4)Paris GP
6.73 22-1 ..... 1)Malmö
6.62 21-8¾ ..... 4)Stock GP
6.62 21-8¾ .... 7)Zürich GP
6.70 21-11¾ .... 6)GP Final
(22-2¼i, 21-10¼i, 22-5¾w)

8. LYUDMILA GALKINA (Rus)
(1/20/72, 5-7¾/126)
6.55i 21-6 ..... 6)Moscow
6.92 22-8½ ... 1)Seville GP
6.73 22-1 ..... 1)Tartu
6.99 22-11¼ 1)Helsinki GP
6.84 22-5¼ ..... 2)Euro Cup
6.53 21-5¼ ... 5)Bellinzona
6.53 21-5¼ .... 8)Rome GP
6.85w 22-5¾ ..... 2)Goodwill
6.57 21-6¾ ..... 2)JJK GP
6.54 21-5½ ..... 6)Paris GP
7.06w 23-2 ..... 3)Euro Ch
6.54 21-5½ 6)Brussels GP
6.58 21-7¼ ..... 7)GP Final
6.73(A) 22-1 ..... 4)World Cup

9. DAWN BURRELL (US)
(11/1/73, 5-8½/128)
6.32i 20-9 ..... 1)Houston
6.49i 21-3½ ..... 1)Houston
6.92i 22-8½ .. 1)USATF Ind
6.83w 22-5 ..... 1)Houston
6.87 22-6½ ..... 2)Penn R
6.65 21-10 ..... 3)Osaka GP
6.84 22-5¼ ..... 2)Chemnitz
6.72 22-¾ ..... 2)Jena
6.89 22-7¼ ... 2)Seville GP
6.85 22-5¾ ..... 1)Kassel
6.90 22-7¾ ..... 3)USATF
6.82 22-4½ ... 1)Bellinzona
6.87 22-6½ ..... 2)Linz GP
3f ..... –)Nuremberg
6.70 21-11¾ .. 5)Rome GP
6.82w 22-4½ ..... 4)Goodwill
6.55 21-6 ..... 3)JJK GP
6.69 21-11½ .... 5)Paris GP
6.48 21-3¼ ..... 4)Malmö
6.60 21-8 ..... 5)Stock GP
6.56 21-6¼ . 3)Leverkusen
6.78 22-3 ..... 6)Zürich GP
6.53 21-5¼ ..... 8)GP Final

10. SUSEN TIEDTKE (Ger)
(1/23/69, 5-8½/123)
6.56i 21-6 ..... 1)Chemnitz
6.60i 21-8 ..... 5)Moscow
6.62i 21-8¾ .... 1)Bielefeld
6.52i 21-4¾ ..... 4)Piraeus
6.55(A)w 21-6¼ ... 2)El Paso
6.72w 22-¾ ..... 1)Mt. SAC
6.53 21-5¼ ..... 4)Rio GP
6.78 22-3 ..... 3)Chemnitz
6.79 22-3¼ ..... 1)Cottbus
6.64 21-9½ ..... 2)Caorle
6.91 22-8 ..... 3)Athens
6.59 21-7½ ..... 4)Euro Cup
6.82 22-4½ ..... 2)Ger Ch
6.66 21-10¼ . 3)Nuremberg
6.68 21-11 ..... 6)Rome GP
6.74 22-1½ .... 3)Gates GP
6.89 22-7¼ .... 2)Ingolstadt
6.47 21-2¾ .... 10)Paris GP
6.58 21-7¼ ..... 6)Stock GP
6.62 21-8¾ ..... 8)Euro Ch
6.66 21-10¼ ... 4)Bruss GP
6.36 20-10½ ..... 7)Rieti GP
6.51 21-4¼ ..... 9)GP Final

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Marion Jones *
2. Shana Williams *
3. Dawn Burrell *
4. Yuan Hunt
[4)NC, 4)USA, 7)Good]
5. Sharon Couch-Jewell
[5)USA, 6)Good, 8)JJK]
6. Jackie Joyner-Kersee
[6)JJK]
7. Angie Brown
[1)Mas/adi, 1)NC, 6)USA]
8. Vonetta Jeffery
[4)SAC, 3)PennR, 8)USA]
9. Marieke Veltman
[6)SAC, 1)Scott, 7)USA]
10. Monique Freeman
[1)TxR, 1)JUCO, 9)USA]

Triple Puts Jones In Elite Company

Just earning a ranking spot in all three events of what might be called the Jesse Owens Trio (100/200/long jump) is a tough feat in itself.

Even tougher is to rank No. 1 in all three. That elite club, which used to have only Irena Szewinska ('67) and Carl Lewis ('84 & '87) as members (Owens predates the Rankings), now welcomes Marion Jones. Can she be the first to do it two years in a row?

Heike Drechsler came close to the triple in '86 when she was No. 2 in the 100 and No. 1 in the 200 and long jump. Overall, Szewinska had scoring triples no fewer than 7 times.

TRIPLE JUMP

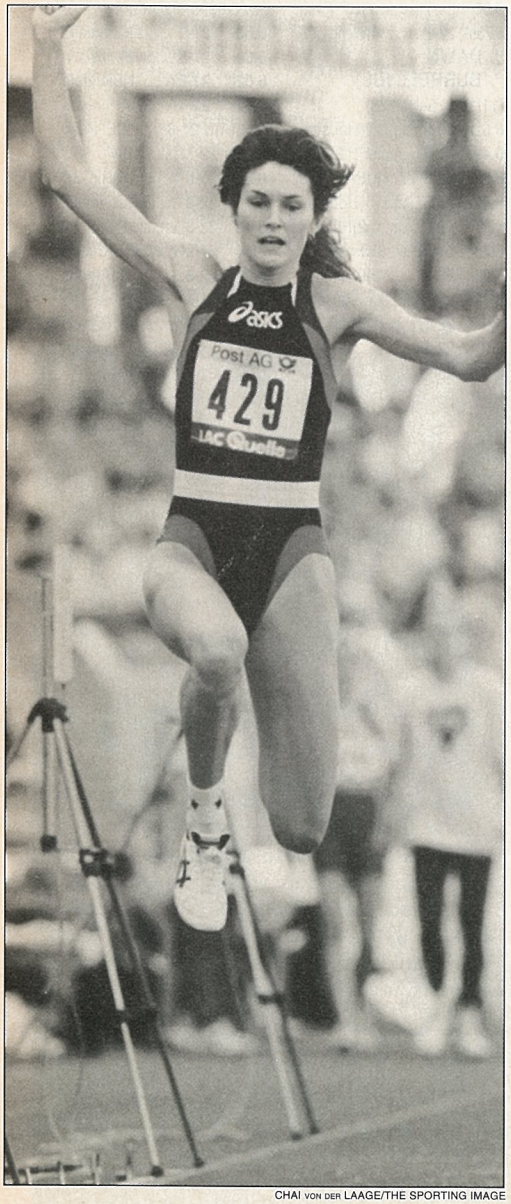
Kaspárková Repeats

NUMBER ONE: The history of the women's TJ Rankings is only 8 years deep, but until this year nobody had ever successfully defended a No. 1. Kaspárková just managed to do so, despite losing the three big Euro competitions (Indoor, Outdoor and Cup). She was the steadiest performer overall and just edges out Vasdeki.

THE INJURED HANSEN was a difficult case.She was almost invincible indoors and ended up with winning records against everybody, but we just don't place that much stock in undercover competition. Hudson returns to the U.S.'s top spot, occupying that position for the 10th time.

1. SARKA KASPÁRKOVÁ (Cze)
(5/20/71, 6-3¾/150)
14.43i 47-4¼ ..... 1)Ostrava
14.21i 46-7½ ..... 3)Stuttgart
14.46i 47-5¼ ..... 2)Gent
14.54i 47-8½ 2)Birmingham
14.78i 48-6 ..... 1)Liévin
14.76i 48-5¼ ..... 2)Euro Ind
14.52 47-7¾ ..... 2)Chaniá
14.60 47-10¾ 1)Réthymnon
14.82 48-7½ 1)Bratislava GP
14.92 48-11½ .... 1)Ostrava
14.90 48-10¾ ..... 1)Athens
13.79 45-3 ..... 1)Prague
14.63 48-0 ..... 2)Euro Cup
14.59 47-10½ ... 1)Lucerne
14.93w 48-11¾ 2)Vill-d'Ascq
14.06 46-1½ ..... 1)Cze Ch
14.73 48-4 ..... 1)Nice GP
14.76 48-5¼ .... 1)Goodwill
14.53 47-8 ..... 2)Euro Ch
14.98 49-1¾ .... 1)Rovereto
13.48 44-2¾ .... 1)Jablonec
14.86w 48-9 ..... 2)TOTO
[47-10½, 47-2¼i]

Kaspárková was only 4th on the yearly list, but jumping the farthest isn't always the key to being No. 1.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

2. OLGA VASDEKI (Gre)
(9/26/73, 5-7¾/123)
13.98i 45-10½ ..... 3)Gent
14.44i 47-4½ ..... 1)Gre Ind
14.18i 46-6¼ ..... 1)Piraeus
14.29i 46-10¾ ... 4)Euro Ind
14.31 46-11½ ..... 4)Chaniá
14.56 47-9¼ ... 1)Budapest
14.44 47-4½ ..... 3)Athens
14.54 47-8½ ..... 1)Gre Ch
14.55 47-9 ..... 1)Euro Ch
14.64(A) 48-½ ..... 1)World Cup

3. RODICA MATEESCU (Rom)
(3/13/71, 5-10¾/139)
14.87i 48-9½ .. 1)Bucharest
14.86i 48-9 ..... 1)Dortmund
14.78i 48-6 ..... 1)Stuttgart
14.27i 46-10 ..... 5)Euro Ind
14.96 49-1 ..... 1)Chaniá
14.55 47-9 ..... 2)Budapest
15.01 49-3 .... 1)Vill-d'Ascq
14.70 48-2¾ ..... 2)Nice GP
14.80 48-6¾ ..... 1)Rom Ch
14.46 47-5¼ ..... 4)Euro Ch
14.18 46-6¼ .... 3)Rovereto
14.19 46-6¾ ..... 3)TOTO

4. ASHIA HANSEN (GB)
(12/5/71, 5-7/139)
14.30i 46-11 . 1)Birmingham
14.31i 46-11½ .... 2)Ostrava
14.19i 46-6¾ ..... 1)GB Ind
14.47i 47-5¾ ..... 1)Gent
14.85i 48-8¾ 1)Birmingham
14.73i 48-4 ..... 2)Liévin
15.16i 49-9 ..... 1)Euro Ind
13.39 43-11¼ .... 1)Bedford
14.32 46-11¾ .. 1)Comm G

U.S. RANKINGS

1. **Sheila Hudson**
[1)US, 6)Good, 5)WCp]
2. **Cynthea Rhodes**
[2)US In, 2)US, 5)Good]
3. **Tiombé Hurd**
[6)US In, 3)US, 3)Good]
4. **Stacey Bowers**
[2)NC, 4)US, 8)Good]
5. **Shonda Swift**
[3)US In, 1)Penn, 5)US]
6. **Nicole Gamble**
[5)US In, 3)NC, 7)US]
7. **Amanda Banks**
[3)El Pas, 4)Penn, 6)US]
8. **Lisa Austin**
[1)Scott, 1)LBch, 8)US]
9. **Niambi Dennis**
[1)US In, 1)SAC, 13)US]
10. **Deana Simmons**
[6)NC In, 4)NC, 10)US]

5. TEREZA MARINOVA (Bul)
(9/25/77, 5-7/128)
14.14i 46-4¾ ..... 2)Gre Ind
13.99i 45-10¾ ..... 5)Liévin
13.81i 45-3¾ ..... 9)Euro Ind
14.67 48-1¾ ..... 2)Athens
14.54 47-8½ ..... 1)Bul Ch
14.32w 46-11¾ 5)Vill-d'Ascq
14.47 47-5¾ ..... 4)Nice GP
14.50 47-7 ..... 3)Euro Ch
[47-4¼, 45-11¼i]

6. FIONA MAY (Ita)
(12/12/69, 5-11½/132)
14.56i 47-9¼ .... 1)Florence
13.95 45-9¼ .. 2)Vilamoura
14.34 47-¾ ..... 1)Milan
14.65 48-¾ ..... 1)Euro Cup
14.44 47-4½ .... 2)Rovereto

7. TATYANA LEBEDYEVA (Rus)
(7/21/76)
14.08i 46-2½ .... 3)Russ Ind
14.40 47-3 ..... 1)Rostov
14.45 47-5 .. 2)Bratislava GP
14.20 46-7¼ ..... 2)Lucerne
13.97 45-10 ..... 1)Koski

8. YELENA GOVOROVA (Ukr)
(9/18/73, 5-10/134)
14.13 46-4¼ ... 3)Euro Cup
14.70w 48-2¾ . 3)Vill-d'Ascq
14.51 47-7¼ ..... 3)Nice GP
14.57w 47-9¾ ..... 1)Funchal
14.45 47-5 ..... 1)Ukr Ch
14.24 46-8¾ ..... 6)Euro Ch
[47-5¼, 46-11½, 45-6½i]

9. IVA PRANDZHEVA (Bul)
(2/15/72, 5-8½/126)
14.32 46-11¾ .. 1)Lappeen
nm .... –)Euro Ch
15.12 49-7¼ ..... 1)TOTO

10. YAMILÉ ALDAMA (Cub)
(8/14/72, 5-8/137)
14.37 47-1¾ ..... 1)Havana
14.51w 47-7¼ ..... 2)Funchal
14.55 47-9 ..... 1)Cub Ch
14.34 47-¾ ..... 1)CAC G
[1)Barr, 8)V-d'A, 3)WCup]

SHOT

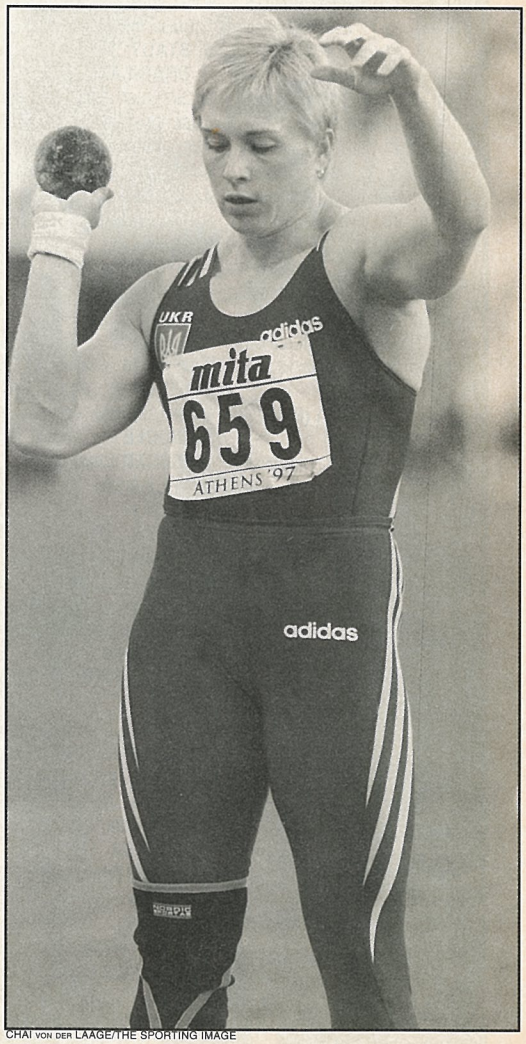
Pavlysh Erupts

NUMBER ONE: Pavlysh can now claim the yearly shot-shocker for two years in a row. Last year at the World Indoor it was when she ended Astrid Kumbernuss's winning streak at 53. This time it came at the European Championships, where she skipped over the 69- and 70-foot barriers and unexpectedly joined the 71-foot club. Her 71-2 in Budapest was the longest toss in the world since '88 and made her the first new 70-footer since '91.

AS FOR KUMBERNUSS, her 3-year hold on the top spot was ended by a combination of knee surgery and maternity.

PRICE-SMITH'S No. 3 is a fine breakthrough for the oldest putter in the rankings. It's not only her all-time high (previous best No. 5, in '96), but it's also the first time an American has rated as high as No. 3 since Earlene Brown in '60. And it's Price-Smith's fourth appearance, matching Brown's total there.

Pavlysh's 71-2 was a PR by more than 3ft and remains more than 2ft farther than her next best ever.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

PUT

At Europeans

1. VITA PAVLYSH (Ukr)
(1/15/69, 5-8½/187)
20.19i 66-3 ..... 1)Moscow
20.00i 65-7½ ..... 2)Euro Ind
21.69 71-2 ..... 1)Euro Ch
21.00 68-10¾ 1)Rüdlingen
20.59 67-6¾ . 1)World Cup

2. IRINA KORZHANENKO (Rus)
(5/16/74, 5-10/216)
19.99i 65-7 ..... 2)Moscow
19.72i 64-8½ .... 1)Russ Ind
20.25i 66-5¼ ..... 1)Euro Ind
20.82 68-3¾ ..... 1)Rostov
20.65 67-9 ..... 1)Euro Cup
19.94 65-5 ..... 1)Goodwill
19.71 64-8 ..... 2)Euro Ch
20.05 65-9½ .. 2)Rüdlingen
19.04 62-5¾ . 2)World Cup

3. CONNIE PRICE-SMITH (US)
(6/3/62, 6-3½/205)
18.64i 61-2 . 1)Bloomington
18.38i 60-3¾ 1)USATF Ind
18.50 60-8½ ..... 1)El Paso
18.51 60-8¾ ..... 1)Drake R
19.33 63-5 .. 1)Indianapolis
17.99 59-¼ 1)Bloomington
18.67 61-3 ..... 1)USATF
19.46 63-10¼ .. 2)Goodwill
18.79 61-7¾ . 3)World Cup

4. SVETLANA KRIVELYOVA (Rus)
(6/13/69, 5-11½/205)
19.29i 63-3½ ..... 1)Moscow
19.10i 62-8 ..... 3)Moscow
18.99i 62-3¾ .... 2)Russ Ind
19.58 64-3 ..... 1)Moscow
20.53 67-4¼ ..... 1)Moscow
20.17 66-2¼ ..... 1)Moscow
19.18 62-11¼ .... 1)Rus Ch
19.08 62-7¼ ..... 4)Euro Ch
18.09 59-4¼ .. 3)Rüdlingen

5. YANINA KOROLCHIK (Blr)
(12/26/76)
18.39 60-4 ..... 1)Blr Ch
18.90 62-¼ ..... 2)Minsk
19.23 63-1¼ ..... 3)Euro Ch
17.93 58-10 ... 5)Rüdlingen

6. CORRIE DE BRUIN (Hol)
(10/26/76, 5-10½/176)
18.51i 60-8¾ ..... 1)Hol Ind
18.97i 62-3 ..... 3)Euro Ind
18.48 60-7¾ . 1)Krommenie
18.39 60-4 ..... 1)Hoorn
18.69 61-4 ..... 1)Papendal
18.81 61-8½ ..... 1)Hengelo
18.52 60-9¼ ..... 1)Malmö
18.40 60-4½ ..... 1)Leiden
18.76 61-6¾ . 1)Groningen
18.67 61-3 .... 1)Eindhoven
18.35 60-2½ ..... 1)Hol Ch
18.87 61-11 ..... 1)Arnhem
18.43 60-5¾ ..... 1)Hechtel
18.28 59-11¾ ... 7)Euro Ch

7. KRYSTYNA ZABAWSKA (Pol)
(1/14/68, 6-0/194)
19.03i 62-5¼ ..... 1)Spala
19.07i 62-6¾ ..... 1)Pol Ind
18.81i 61-8½ .... 4)Euro Ind
18.26 59-11 ..... 1)Suwalki
19.24 63-1½ ..... 1)Halle
19.19 62-11½ . 1)Bydgoscz
19.02 62-5 ..... 1)Sopot
18.57 60-11¼ ..... 1)Athens
18.60 61-¼ ..... 1)Pol Ch
18.07 59-3½ 2)Thessaloníki
18.62 61-1¼ ..... 1)Warsaw
17.69 58-½ ..... 11)Euro Ch

8. VALENTINA FEDYUSHINA (Ukr)
(2/10/65, 6-2¾/198)
18.80i 61-8¼ ..... 1)Piraeus
18.64 61-2 ..... 1)Lisbon
18.79 61-7¾ ..... 2)Halle
18.90 62-¼ ..... 1)Lisbon
18.14 59-6¼ .. 1)Vilamoura
18.26 59-11 ... 1)Villa R St. A
18.29 60-¼ ..... 1)Baza
18.37 60-3¼ ..... 2)Athens
18.74 61-5¾ ..... 1)Gotha
19.07 62-6¾ .... 3)Goodwill

9. KATARZYNA ZAKOWICZ (Pol)
(5/12/75, 6-½/207)
18.72 61-5 ..... 1)Lublin
18.18 59-7¾ ..... 2)Sopot
18.03 59-2 ..... 2)Pol Ch
17.77 58-3¾ ..... 2)Warsaw
18.77 61-7 ..... 5)Euro Ch
18.41 60-4¾ .... 1)Bialystok
18.20 59-8½ ..... 1)Sopot
18.15 59-6¾ .... 1)Stargard

10. YUMILEIDIS CUMBÁ (Cub)
(2/11/75)
18.94 62-1¾ ..... 1)Havana
18.23 59-9¾ ..... 1)Barr M
18.60 61-¼ ..... 1)Havana
19.20 63-0 ..... 1)Havana
18.86 61-10½ .... 1)Havana
19.12 62-8¾ ..... 1)Cub Ch
18.89 61-11¾ ..... 1)CAC G
18.76 61-6¾ . 4)World Cup

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Connie Price-Smith *
2. Teri Tunks
   [2)NC, 2)USA, 5)Good]
3. Tressa Thompson
   [1)NC, 3)USA, 7)Good]
4. Valeyta Althouse
   [2)US In, 1)SAC, 9)USA]
5. Dawn Dumble
   [4)US In, 3)SAC, 4)USA]
6. Amy Palmer
   [2)NC In, 2)Westw, 4)NC]
7. Seilala Sua
   [4)SAC, 6)NC, 7)USA]
8. Crystal Brownlee
   [4)NC In, 7)NC, 5)USA]
9. Jessica Cross
   [3)NC In, 8)NC, 10) USA]
10. Christina Tolson
   [6)SAC, 11)NC, 8)USA]

DISCUS

Dietszch, Barely

NUMBER ONE: Sadova made a strong pitch for No. 1 by winning the GP Final and notching a 3–2 record over Dietzsch. But honors are the prime determinant, and Dietzsch's wins in the European Championships and World Cup put her over the top. Barely. Grasu, with a pair of wins over each of the top 2, wasn't far behind.

THE U.S'S WEAKEST LINK, the discus now has a dry spell in the Rankings that goes all the way back to '68, when Olga Connolly was No. 8. Connolly had earlier ranked for her native Czechoslovakia. The last American-born ranker was Earlene Brown in '60.

1. FRANKA DIETZSCH (Ger)
(1/22/68, 6-0/209)
62.46 204-11 ..... 3)Halle
61.85 202-11 5)Hengelo GP
62.92 206-5 5)Bratislava GP
61.76 202-7 ..... 2)Warstein
63.20 207-4 ..... 5)Turin
63.62 208-9 ..... 1)Ger Ch
66.08 216-9 ..... 1)Linz GP
62.32 204-5 ... 1)Barcelona
65.92 216-3 . 1)Sheffield GP
67.49 221-5 ..... 1)Euro Ch
63.76 209-2 ..... 1)Troisdorf
68.91 226-1 ..... 1)Stendal
65.24 214-0 ..... 2)GP Final
67.07 220-0 .. 1)World Cup
66.93 219-7 .. 1)Bad Köstritz

2. NATALYA SADOVA (Rus)
(6/15/72, 5-10/183)
63.21 207-4 ... 1)Osaka GP
62.84 206-2 4)Hengelo GP
67.85 222-7 1)Bratislava GP
64.18 210-7 .... 1)Euro Cup
65.80 215-10 ... 1)Goodwill
64.06 210-2 ..... 1)JJK GP
66.94 219-7 ..... 2)Euro Ch
68.50 224-9 ..... 1)GP Final
64.38 211-3 .. 3)World Cup
[216-4, 215-10, 215-9]

3. NICOLETA GRASU (Rom)
(9/17/71, 5-9¼/194)
63.05 206-10 .. 2)Doha GP
65.82 215-11 1)Hengelo GP
66.86 219-4 ... 1)Bucharest
63.75 209-2 ..... 4)Linz GP
67.80 222-5 ..... 1)Snagov
65.70 215-7 . 1)Thessaloníki
64.64 212-1 . 2)Sheffield GP
65.94 216-4 ..... 3)Euro Ch
65.10 213-7 ..... 3)GP Final
66.25 217-4 .. 2)World Cup
[215-3, 213-11, 213-1]

4. BEATRICE FAUMUINA (NZ)
(10/23/74, 5-10¾/216)
66.40 217-10 .... 1)Christch
66.00 216-6 .... 1)Papakura
67.58 221-9 . 1)N Shore City
65.78 215-10 ..... 1)NZ Ch
63.80 209-4 ..... 1)Aus Ch
64.15 210-5 .. 3)Hengelo GP
65.43 214-8 3)Bratislava GP
65.12 213-8 ..... 2)Linz GP
63.44 208-2 ..... 4)GP Final
63.77 209-2 .. 4)World Cup
65.92 216-3 ..... 1)Comm G
[214-8, 213-8, 213-0]

5. ELLINA ZVEREVA (Blr)
(11/16/60, 6-2/220)
67.46 221-4 ..... 1)Brest
66.42 217-11 .. 1)Doha GP
65.31 214-3 4)Bratislava GP
64.40 211-3 ..... 1)Lisbon
66.14 217-0 ..... 1)Turin
64.60 211-11 .... 3)Linz GP
65.92 216-3 ..... 4)Euro Ch

6. ANASTASIA KELESIDOU (Gre)
(11/28/72, 6-2¾/183)
66.18 217-1 ..... 1)Halle
65.58 215-2 . 1)Réthymnon
65.71 215-7 .... 1)Budapest
65.87 216-1 1)Bratislava GP
[2)Heng, 7)Eur Ch, 6)GPF]

7. EKATERINI VOGGOLI (Gre)
(10/30/70, 5-8/196)
64.30 210-11 . 1)Thessalon
64.78 212-6 .. 3)Réthymnon
64.29 210-11 ..... 1)Athens
63.56 208-6 ..... 5)Euro Ch
[3)Chan, 1)Gre Ch, 2)Thess]

8. ILKE WYLUDDA (Ger)
(3/28/69, 6-¾/214)
62.21 204-1 . 1)Wiesbaden
63.03 206-9 ..... 2)Goodwill
63.46 208-2 ..... 6)Euro Ch
62.50 205-1 ..... 2)Stendal
[6)Bratis, 2)Ger Ch, 3)JJK]

9. IRINA YATCHENKO (Blr)
(10/31/65, 6-¾/207)
64.00 210-0 ..... 1)Chaniá
63.36 207-10 ..... 3)Lisbon
63.60 208-8 . 4)Sheffield GP
63.30 207-8 ..... 5)GP Final
[nm)Brat, 2)Barc, 8)Eur Ch]

10. LISA-MARIE VIZANIARI (Aus)
(12/14/71, 5-8/220)
62.26 204-3 ..... 2)Melb GP
64.11 210-4 ..... 2)Brisbane
63.06 206-11 ..... 2)Athens
62.14 203-10 ... 2)Comm G
[7)Bratis, 8)Good, 7)GPF]

U.S. RANKINGS

1. Seilala Sua
   [1)Modes, 1)NC, 1)US]
2. Aretha Hill
   [1)P-10, 2)NC, 3)US]
3. Suzy Powell
   [2)Modesto, 2)P-10, 4)NC]
4. Kris Kuehl
   [6)Modesto, 2)US, 3)Good]
5. Edie Boyer
   [3)Modesto, 4)US, 4)Good]
6. Dawn Dumble
   [5)Modesto, 6)US, 7)Good]
7. Lacy Barnes-Mileham
   [7)Modesto, 5)US, 9)Good]
8. Shelly Borrman
   [5)SAC, 1)WAC, 3)NC]
9. Teri Tunks
   [1)Orlando, 2)WAC, 5)NC]
10. Erica Ahmann
   [2)Orlando, 1)Gaines, 7)US]

Dietzsch sewed up her claim to No. 1 with a pair of major-meet wins, the Euro Champs and the World Cup.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

HAMMER

A Familiar Tune

NUMBER ONE: For the third year in a row, Kuzenkova produced the farthest throw in history, but couldn't take the top position. And for the third year in a row Melinte produced the second-farthest throw but ends up No. 1. And in this case, Melinte will also get the WR, because Kuzenkova's longest toss didn't come in a tested meet. Melinte was undefeated and beat Kuzenkova both times they met.

PALMER WAS THE BEST U.S. PERFORMER, but it was her losses to unranked fellow Americans that cost her the No. 3 spot to Sosimenko, despite beating the Aussie at the year's biggest meet, Goodwill.

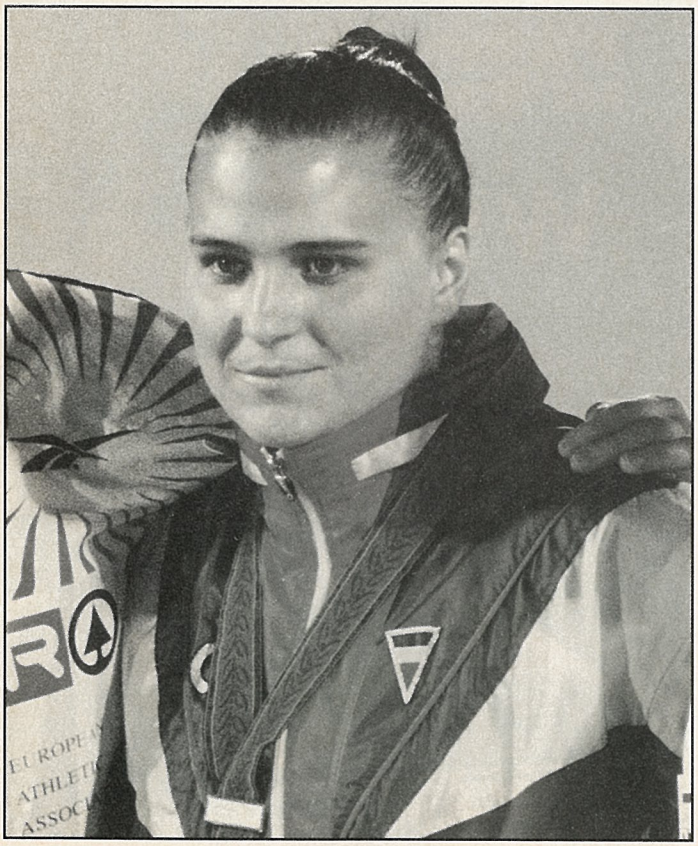
1. MIHAELA MELINTE (Rom)
(3/27/75, 5-7 3/4/172)
68.84 225-10 . 1)Bucharest
71.38 234-2 ... 1)Bucharest
68.64 225-2 ..... 1)Snagov
70.26 230-6 ... 1)C-Ferrand
70.09 229-11 .. 1)Budapest
68.18 223-8 ... 1)Bucharest
73.14 239-11 ... 1)P Brasov
72.64 238-4 ..... 1)Goodwill
69.62 228-5 ..... 1)Rom Ch
70.58 231-7 ..... 1)Namur
69.56 228-2 ..... 1)Nivelles
71.17 233-6 ..... 1)Euro Ch

2. OLGA KUZENKOVA (Rus)
(10/4/70, 5-9 1/4/154)
66.62 218-7 ..... 1)Perth
67.88 222-8 .... 1)Canberra
68.32 224-2 1)N Shore City
62.88 206-3 ..... 2)Sydney
73.80 242-1 ..... 1)Tolyatti
65.89 216-2 .... 1)Euro Cup
70.98 232-10 ... 2)Goodwill
70.72 232-0 ..... 1)Funchal
71.49 234-6 ..... 1)Rus Ch
69.28 227-3 ..... 2)Euro Ch
70.68 231-11 . 1)Rüdlingen
70.71 232-0 ..... 1)Nitra

3. DEBBIE SOSIMENKO (Aus)
(4/5/74, 5-7/198)
66.30 217-6 ..... 1)Dubbo
65.28 214-2 ..... 2)Perth
64.14 210-5 ..... 1)Sydney
64.52 211-8 .... 2)Canberra
64.98 213-2 . 2)N Shore City
64.02 210-0 ..... 1)Sydney
66.71 218-10 ..... 1)Aus Ch
61.27 201-0 ..... 1)Sydney
65.82 215-11 ... 4)Goodwill
67.16 220-4 ..... 1)Sydney
66.56 218-4 ..... 1)Comm G

4. AMY PALMER (US)
(4/20/75, 5-11/220)
67.08 220-1 ..... 1)Texas R
65.94 216-4 ..... 1)Provo
60.94 199-11 ... 2)B Rouge
62.56 205-3 ..... 1)Provo
65.90 216-2 .. 1)Westwood
56.50 185-4 ..... 1)Logan
65.80 215-10 ..... 1)Provo
62.86 206-3 ..... 1)WAC
63.48 208-3 ..... 2)NCAA
63.71 209-0 .....2)USATF
56.96 186-10 ..... 1)Gävle
60.81 199-6 ..... 1)Gävle
62.32 204-5 . 1)Helsingborg

Melinte became the first woman to lead the hammer three years in a row, even without the year's longest throw.



CHAI von der LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

U.S. RANKINGS
1. **Amy Palmer** *
2. **Windy Dean**
[3)NC, 1)USA, 9)Good]
3. **Dawn Ellerbe**
[1)SAC, 3)USA, 6)Good]
4. **Anna Norgren**
[2)SAC, 4)USA, 8)Good]
5. **Renetta Seiler**
[3)SAC, 5)NC, 5)USA]
6. **Katie Panek**
[3)TxR, 4)NC, 6)USA]
7. **Christina Tolson**
[7)SAC, 1)Cal/Nv, 7)USA]
8. **Janet Visosky**
[2)Big 12, 7)NC, 10)USA]
9. **Maureen Griffin**
[3)Penn, 9)USA, 3)World Jr]
10. **Staci Darden**
[2)Cal/Nv, 5)WAC, 8)USA]

66.33 217-7 ..... 3)Goodwill

5. LYUDMILA GUBKINA (Blr)
(5/28/72, 5-7/159)
66.24 217-4 ..... 1)Minsk
67.30 220-9 ..... 1)Halle
66.94 219-7 ..... 1)Malmö
66.86 219-4 ..... 1)Minsk
66.40 217-10 ..... 1)Minsk
63.03 206-9 ..... 6)Euro Ch
67.83 222-6 ... 2)Rüdlingen
67.68 222-0 ..... 2)Nitra
65.46 214-9 ..... 1)Stendal
61.52 201-10 ... 3)Kusoc M

6. KIRSTEN MÜNCHOW (Ger)
(1/21/77, 5-8 3/4/143)
66.82 219-3 ..... 1)Wiesau
66.10 216-10 ..... 2)Halle
64.82 212-8 ..... 1)Erding
65.61 215-3 ..... 3)Euro Ch
65.31 214-3 ..... 2)Stendal
(2)EurCp, 2)GerCh, 1)Lever)

7. SIMONE MATHES (Ger)
(3/13/75, 5-7 1/4/170)
66.17 217-1 ... 1)Dortmund
64.87 212-10 ..... 1)Ger Ch
64.05 210-1 ..... 4)Euro Ch
65.13 213-8 ... 3)Rüdlingen
(5)Halle, 2)Leverk, 3)BKöst)

8. TATYANA KONSTANTINOVA (Rus)
(1970)
62.81 206-1 ..... 1)Sochi
65.30 214-3 ..... 1)Moscow
64.53 211-8 ..... 2)Rus Ch
58.35 191-5 .... nq)Euro Ch
63.18 207-3 ... 7)Rüdlingen

9. ALLA DAVYDOVA (Rus)
(5/21/66)
64.61 211-11 ..... 3)Tolyatti
64.11 210-4 ..... 2)Moscow
63.77 209-2 ..... 5)Goodwill
63.39 207-11 ..... 3)Rus Ch
62.36 204-7 ..... 8)Euro Ch

10. LISA MISIPEKA (AmS)
(1/3/75, 5-7/185)
64.10 210-4 ..... 1)Penn R
65.00 213-3 ..... 1)SEC
63.82 209-4 ..... 1)NCAA
62.76 205-11 ... 7)Goodwill
64.06 210-2 ... 5)Rüdlingen

JAVELIN

A New No. 1

NUMBER ONE: Damaske has taken a slow but steady road to the top. Joining the Rankings for the first time in the No. 9 spot in '94, she then improved to 6, 5 and 3 before claiming the preeminent position this year. She's the only thrower to have made the Top 10 in each of those 5 years.

STONE WAS UNDEFEATED, and beat Damaske the only time they met, but the Aussie had only four meets all season, only two outside Australia and none in Europe, so it was felt that the GP leaders had to take precedence for the first three spots. With a win in the GP Final, and the Euro title, Damaske was clear.

1. TANJA DAMASKE (Ger)
(11/16/71, 5-9 3/4/152)
65.86 216-1 .. 1)Seville GP
62.61 205-5 ... 1)Dortmund
65.61 215-3 . 2)Helsinki GP
62.30 204-5 .... 1)Euro Cup
70.10 230-0 ..... 1)Ger Ch
66.57 218-5 ..... 1)Oslo GP
66.02 216-7 ... 3)Rome GP
63.29 207-7 ..... 1)Stuttgart
63.77 209-2 . 5)Monaco GP
68.66 225-3 ... 2)Zürich GP
69.10 226-8 ..... 1)Euro Ch
61.94 203-2 7)Brussels GP
68.02 223-2 .... 1)Berlin GP
68.40 224-5 ..... 1)GP Final
62.51 205-1 .. 5)World Cup

2. TRINE HATTESTAD (Nor)
(4/18/66, 5-7 3/4/166)
62.31 204-5 .... 3)Doha GP
63.51 208-4 ..... 1)Florø
66.96 219-8 ..... 1)Malmö
64.84 212-9 . 3)Helsinki GP
63.37 207-11 .. 1)Tønsberg
63.92 209-8 ..... 2)Turku
62.58 205-4 ..... 5)Oslo GP
67.23 220-7 ... 1)Rome GP
66.09 216-10 ... 1)Paris GP
64.20 210-7 ..... 1)Nor Ch
65.71 215-7 . 1)Monaco GP
69.59 228-3 ... 1)Zürich GP
63.16 207-3 ..... 4)Euro Ch
67.98 223-0 1)Lausanne GP
66.22 217-3 . 1)Brussels GP
62.93 206-5 .... 3)Berlin GP
67.26 220-8 ..... 3)GP Final

3. TATYANA SHIKOLENKO (Rus)
(5/10/68, 5-8 3/4/174)
63.13 207-1 ..... 2)Rio GP
62.90 206-4 .... 2)Doha GP
57.31 188-0 . 5)St.-Denis GP
58.11 190-7 7)Helsinki GP
61.64 202-3 ..... 7)Oslo GP
62.64 205-6 ... 5)Rome GP
64.38 211-3 ..... 1)Nice GP
63.69 208-11 ... 2)Paris GP
62.41 204-9 . 6)Monaco GP
65.00 213-3 ... 5)Zürich GP
66.92 219-7 ..... 2)Euro Ch
65.78 215-10 ... 3)Laus GP
65.77 215-9 . 3)Brussels GP
63.19 207-3 .... 2)Berlin GP
67.84 222-7 ..... 2)GP Final
63.77 209-2 .. 4)World Cup
[215-0, 209-8, 203-5]

4. JOANNA STONE (Aus)
(10/4/72, 5-7 3/4/143)
64.16 210-6 ..... 1)Brisbane
66.29 217-6 ..... 1)Goodwill
68.23 223-10 ..... 1)Sydney
69.85 229-2 .. 1)World Cup

5. MIKAELA INGBERG (Fin)
(7/29/74, 5-8/152)
63.26 207-6 .... 1)Doha GP
66.10 216-10 . 1)Helsinki GP
65.77 215-9 ..... 1)Turku
64.26 210-10 .... 2)Oslo GP
66.43 217-11 . 2)Rome GP
63.90 209-8 .. 4)Monaco GP
63.52 208-5 ... 6)Zürich GP
64.92 213-0 ..... 3)Euro Ch
63.34 207-10 ... 6)GP Final
64.24 210-9 .. 3)World Cup
[211-7, 210-4, 210-2]

6. SONIA BISSET (Cub)
(4/1/71, 5-7 1/4/152)

U.S. RANKINGS
1. **Nicole Carroll**
[1)adi/Or, 1)USA, 7)Good]
2. **Lynda Lipson-Blutreich**
[1)Clemson, 3)USA, 6)Good]
3. **Windy Dean**
[1)NC, 2)USA, 8)Good]
4. **Ann Crouse**
[1)Mason, 4)USA, 5)Good]
5. **Erica Wheeler**
[2)adi/Or, 2)SMateo, 5)USA]
6. **Kim Kreiner**
[2)PennR, 7)NC, 6)USA]
7. **Suzy Powell**
[1)Cal/N, 8)NC, 7)USA]
8. **Jen Pastore**
[1)Raleigh, 1)Penn, 9)NC]
9. **Jamie Strieter**
[2)Drake, 15)NC, 8)USA]
10. **Karis Howell**
[3)Drake, 1)Pac-10, 10)NC]

HEPTATHLON

JJK's Farewell—2nd

NUMBER ONE: With her sterling comethrough at Goodwill, for a while it looked as if Joyner-Kersee's final 7-eventer might earn her a record-tieing 7th No. 1, but when Lewis came up with a year-leading score at the Euros—then backed it up with another total better than JJK's—the Briton was a clear leader. She was last year's runner-up.

JJK DID TIE the old record for most appearances in this event at 11, but Braun went her one better, running her total to a dozen.

1. DENISE LEWIS (GB)
(8/27/72, 5-8/141)
6559 ..... 1)Euro Ch
6513 ..... 1)Comm G

2. JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE (US)
(3/2/62, 5-10/148)
6502 ..... 1)Goodwill

3. URSZULA WLODARCZYK (Pol)
(12/22/65, 5-10$^{3}/_{4}$/148)
6356 1)Alhama de Murcia
6423 ..... 2)Götzis
6038 ..... 1)Valladolid
6144 ..... 3)Euro Cup
6291 ..... 6)Goodwill
6460 ..... 2)Euro Ch
6362 ..... 1)Talence

4. REMIGIJA NAZAROVIENÉ (Lit)
(6/2/67, 5-10/154)
dnf ..... –)Götzis
6346 ..... 4)Goodwill
6394 ..... 4)Euro Ch
6313 ..... 2)Talence

5. IRINA BELOVA (Rus)
(3/27/68, 5-8$^{3}/_{4}$/139)
dnf ..... –)Krasnodar
6466 ..... 1)Götzis
6305 ..... 5)Goodwill
6375 ..... 5)Euro Ch
6205 ..... 4)Talence

6. NATALYA SAZANOVICH (Blr)
(8/15/73, 5-10/141)
dnf ..... –)Götzis
6410 ..... 3)Euro Ch
6229 ..... 3)Talence

7. KELLY BLAIR-LaBOUNTY (US)
(11/24/70, 5-10/135)
6402 ..... 1)USATF
6465 ..... 3)Goodwill
6059 ..... 8)Talence

8. DeDEE NATHAN (US)
(4/20/68, 5-11/165)
dnf ..... –)USATF
6479 ..... 2)Goodwill
5886 ..... 10)Talence

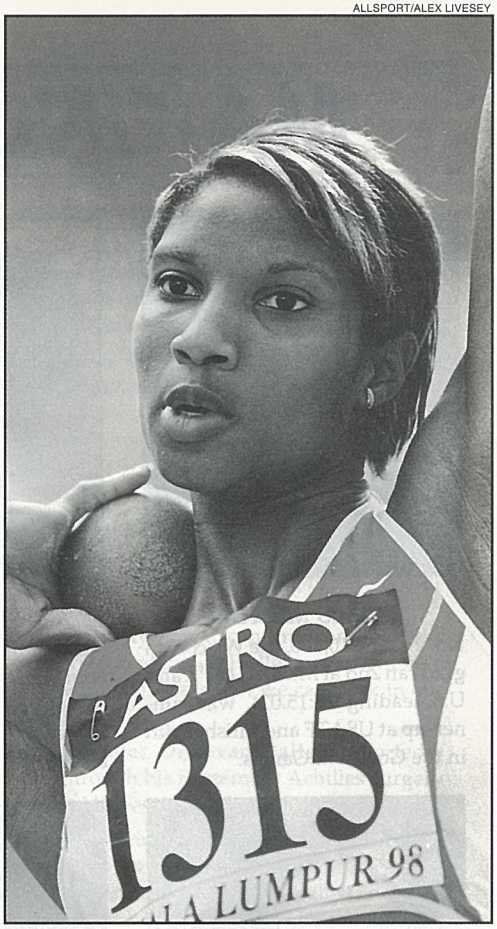
9. PEGGY BEER (Ger)
(6/15/69, 5-9$^{1}/_{4}$/146)
6382 ..... 3)Götzis
6362 ..... 2)Ratingen

10. SABINE BRAUN (Ger)
(1/19/65, 5-8$^{1}/_{2}$/145)
dnf ..... –)Götzis
6381 ..... 1)Ratingen
dnf ..... –)Goodwill
6259 ..... 6)Euro Ch
6147 ..... 6)Talence

U.S. RANKINGS

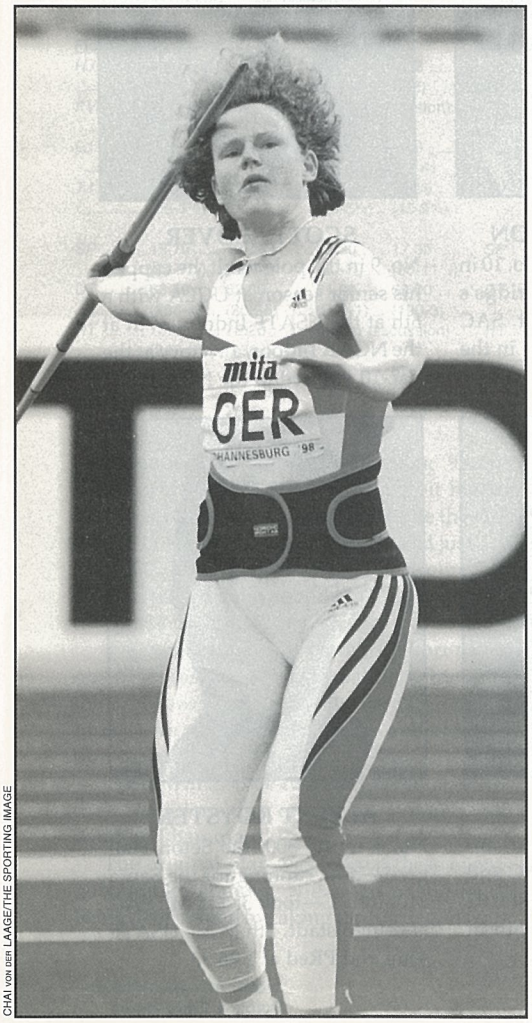
1. **Jackie Joyner-Kersee** *
2. **Kelly Blair-LaBounty** *
3. **DeDee Nathan** *
4. **Shelia Burrell**
[1)SAC, 2)USA, 7)Good]
5. **Tiffany Lott**
[1)Provo, 1)NC, 3)USA]
6. **Wendi Raatjes**
[5)SAC, 4)USA, 1)Montréal]
7. **Trina Bindel**
[5)USA]
8. **Tracye Lawyer**
[4)SAC, 2)NC, 7)USA]
9. **Nicole Haynes**
[6)USA]
10. **Candy Mason**
[3)SAC, 1)Big 12, 3)NC]

ALLSPORT/ALEX LIVESEY



Lewis tallied the year's two highest scores in beating JJK for No. 1.

Damaske became the 19th member of the 70m club and the first since '92.



CHAI VON DER LAAGE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

67.00 219-10 ..... 1)Havana
66.07 216-9 ..... 1)Havana
66.67 218-8 ..... 1)CAC G
67.59 **221-9** ..... 2)Laus GP
66.18 217-1 . 2)Brussels GP
65.50 214-11 .. 2)World Cup
[3)Good, 1)Cub Ch, 4)Berlin]

7. OKSANA MAKAROVA (Rus)
(7/21/71, 5-9$^{1}/_{4}$/161)
65.13 **213-8** . 1)St.-Denis GP
63.92 209-8 3)Monaco GP
65.68 215-6 ..... 4)Laus GP
64.48 211-6 ..... 4)GP Final
[4)Nice, 4)Good, 4)Bruss]

8. OSLEIDYS MENÉNDEZ (Cub)
(11/14/79, 5-5$^{3}/_{4}$/117)
65.17 213-9 ..... 1)Havana
68.17 **223-8** ..... 1)World Jr
64.88 212-10 2)Monaco GP
65.15 213-9 ... 4)Zürich GP
64.51 211-7 ..... 6)Laus GP
[2)Nice, 5)Bruss, 5)GPF]

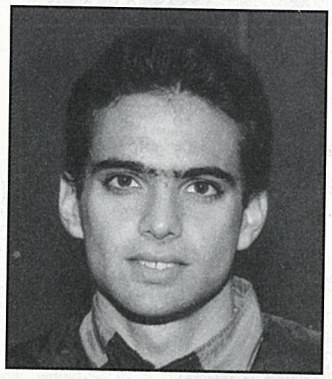
9. STEFFI NERIUS (Ger)
(7/1/72, 5-10/152)
63.11 207-0 ..... 1)Zeven
63.56 208-6 ..... 1)Rhede
67.33 **220-10** ..... 2)Ger Ch
66.43 217-11 . 3)Zürich GP
63.61 208-8 ..... 1)Stendal
[6)EuroCh, 7)Berlin, 8)GPF]

10. HELI RANTANEN (Fin)
(2/26/70, 5-8$^{1}/_{2}$/152)
63.34 207-10 ..... 2)Pori
62.24 204-2 .... 1)Lapinlahti
62.37 204-7 ... 7)Zürich GP
62.34 204-6 ..... 5)Euro Ch
63.60 **208-8** ..... 1)Helsinki
[6)Oslo, 7)Rome, 9)Bruss]

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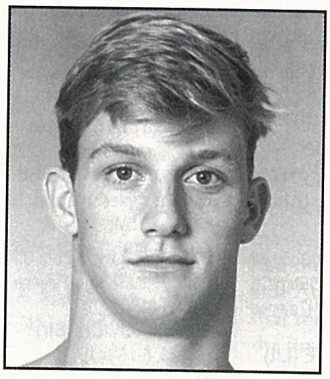
JAMES MENON

No. 2 in the 10,000, the Wisconsin grad ran 2nd at Mt. SAC (a PR and U.S.-leading 28:15.02), was runner-up at USATF and finished 8th in the Goodwill Games.



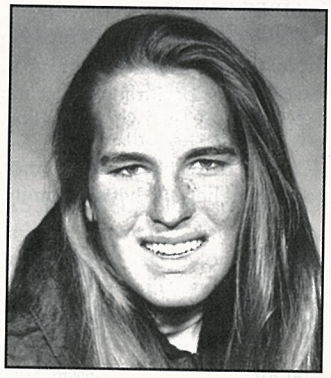
YUAN HUNT

No. 4 in the long jump, the Texas Southern senior won the SWAC (PR of 22-2 1/4), placed 4th in both the NCAA and USATF and earned a 7th at Goodwill.



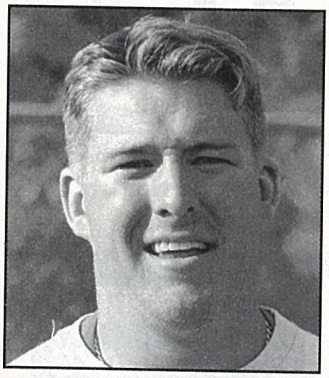
PHIL McMULLEN

No. 7 in the decathlon, Western Michigan's senior won at Sea-Ray (8008w), placed 5th in the NCAA and claimed 6ths at the USATF and in the dual against Germany.



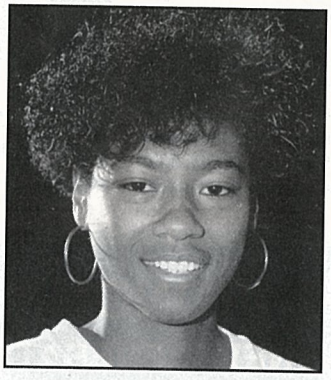
ANN CROUSE

No. 4 in the javelin, the Virginian hurled a PR of 181-11 before earning her highest nationals finish ever, 4th (178-6), then took 5th at Goodwill (176-5).



DAN BOURQUE

No. 7 in the hammer, Southern Connecticut's senior placed 2nd at Penn, won the NCAA II title, finished 7th at USATF and hit a PR of 219-7.



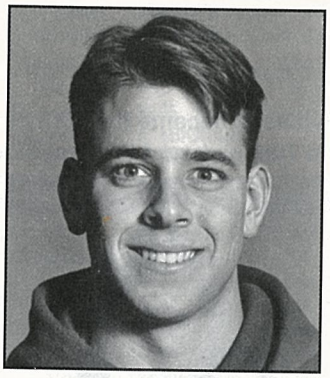
TRECIA ROBERTS

No. 9 over the 100H, the Arizona grad sped to 3rd at Penn and 8th at USATF before zipping a career best of 12.73(A) during the summer in Flagstaff.



CHRISTINA TOLSON

No. 7 in the hammer and No. 10 in the shot, Cal State Northridge's soph placed 7th in the Mt. SAC and USATF HTs, and 11th in the NCAA shot and 8th at USATF.



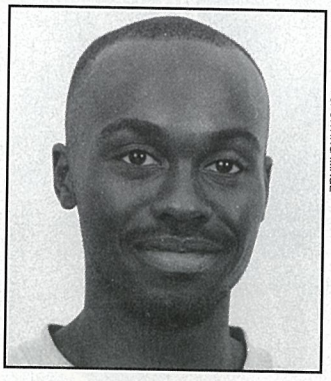
SCOTT SLOVER

No. 9 in the pole vault, he capped his senior season at UCLA with a 6th at the USATF Indoor, =7th at the NCAA Indoor, a victory at the Pac-10 and 3rd in the NCAA.



STACY ANN GRANT

No. 9 in the high jump, the Illinois junior leaped to 4th at the NCAA Indoor, 5th at the NCAA and 8th at the USATF Championships. She scaled a PR indoors of 6-1 1/4.



KIRBY LEE/THE SPORTING IMAGE

JONATHAN JORDAN

No. 8 in the triple jump, Cal State LA's senior bounced to 3rd at Mt. SAC, PRed at 54-1 1/4 to win the NCAA II and placed 7th at the USATF Champs.



NICOLE TETER

No. 7 in the 800, the former Arkansas 2-lapper won at Mt. SAC and adidas/Oregon (2:02.56, just 0.01 off her PR) before placing 5th in the Eugene GP race.



ALBERT ROYSTER

No. 8 in the 800, the Seton Hall grad—now running for the Santa Monica TC—took 3rd at Mt. SAC and Ingolstadt, 5th in his USATF semi and PRed at 1:46.33.

WORLD CHAMPS QUALIFYING

Standards Get Tougher

Even as the most powerful track nation going, the U.S. doesn't always get to field full teams at the World Championships. There are always a few events where enough people don't come up with the requisite qualifiers, and the situation could be tougher than normal next August in Seville.

Here's the way it works. Every nation can enter one athlete in a World Championships event if he/she has made the "B" standard. For a nation to enter two or three athletes in an event, all must make the tougher "A" mark.

Here are the relevant standards for '99 (the qualifying period began January 1, 1998, and runs through August 10, 1999):

MEN			WOMEN		
	A	B	A	B	
100	10.27	10.40	11.40	11.60	*100*
200	20.80	21.00	23.20	23.50	*200*
400	45.80	46.20	52.20	53.20	*400*
800	1:46.3	1:47.2	2:00.5	2:02.5	*800*
1500	3:36.8	3:39.5	4:08.00	4:12.0	*1500*
Steeple	8:27.0	8:30.7	(not contested)		
5000	13:29.0	13:34.0	15:35.0	15:55.0	*5000*
10K	28:10.0	28:28.0	32:30.0	33:20.0	*10K*
Mar	(no standard)		(no standard)		*Mar*
110H	13.74	13.90	13.10	13.40	*100H*
400H	50.04	50.30	56.14	57.14	*400H*
20W	1:23:00	1:26:00	(no standard)		*20W*
50W	4:00:00	4:10:00	(not contested)		
Relays	(no standard)		(no standard)		*Relays*
Field Events					
HJ	2.28	2.25	1.93	1.88	*HJ*
	(7-5¾)	(7-4½)	(6-4)	(6-2)	
PV	5.60	5.45	(under discussion)		*PV*
	(18-4½)	(17-10½)			
LJ	8.05	7.95	6.65	6.50	*LJ*
	(26-5)	(26-1)	(21-10)	(21-4)	
TJ	16.85	16.65	14.15	13.95	*TJ*
	(55-3½)	(54-7½)	(46-5¼)	(45-9¼)	
SP	19.70	19.30	18.30	17.35	*SP*
	(64-7¾)	(63-4)	(60-½)	(56-11¼)	
DT	63.50	62.00	61.00	58.00	*DT*
	(208-4)	(203-5)	(200-1)	(190-3)	
HT	75.50	72.20	(under discussion)		*HT*
	(247-8)	(236-10)			
JT	82.00	77.50	60.00	57.00	*JT*
	(269-0)	(254-3)	(196-10)	(187-0)	
Dec	8050	7800	6000	5750	*Hept*

Based just on marks made during '98, the U.S. shortfall in Spain would be a bit higher than in recent years. On the men's side the U.S. would field only 2 in the hammer and just 1 in the 1500, 10,000, both walks and javelin. The women would have nobody in the triple jump and just 1 in the 10K and javelin.

U.S. women have often fallen short of the maximal number of walk qualifiers, but with the event switching from the 10K to the 20 this time, there will be no standards and each nation can enter 3, if it wishes.

There will also be two completely new-to-the-Championships events for women, the vault and hammer.

The original plan was to treat these events in a unique manner, with each of the fields being determined by taking the top dozen from a simple performers list.

The Women's Committee has protested this setup, however, and the IAAF is now considering establishing a set of standards, like all other events.

Even though a new women's javelin—one which will be designed to prevent flat throws, and thus travel a bit shorter—will be introduced next April 1, it appears that the regular qualifying period will apply, making it easier to qualify with marks from the '98 season.

STATUS QUO

Marathon Miseries

Olympian **Anne Marie Lauck** placed only 13th in the New York 26-miler, but her 2:42:52 time was a personal triumph: it was her first marathon since placing 10th in Atlanta.

Late in '96, while vacationing in Hawaii, Lauck and husband Jim were caught in an avalanche and a rock broke her left shoulder. In the spring of '97, she strained her left hamstring running on a treadmill while the shoulder healed. The leg problem dogged her all last season, but Lauck eased her way back toward a full marathon through '98, including 3rd in the Philadelphia half-marathon.

Mike Mykytok, '97 U.S. 10K champ, didn't fare as well as Lauck on the Big Apple's streets. The leading American near the 18M mark, he began to feel ill, slowed, then walked before collapsing.

He was taken to a hospital but released two days later; no specifics were given about his condition. But it did emerge that Mykytok also had collapsed in August's Falmouth road race, but didn't tell anyone. New York officials said if they had known of the earlier collapse, they would have required a full medical exam and clearance before letting Mykytok run the marathon.

Foot surgery kept British marathon vet **Liz McColgan** out of the major fall races.

Athens marathon bronze medalist **Steve Moneghetti** had arthroscopic knee surgery at the end of September, but was back jogging by mid-November.

Derartu Tulu, the '92 Olympic 10K gold medalist, gave birth to a daughter this summer—an event which wasn't reported in Ethiopian papers for three months. Tulu is back in training for Sydney, but is aiming for the marathon.

Stanford's **Monal Chokshi,** '98 NCAA 3000 champ, has accepted a job with a software firm in Austin, Texas, and will take time to decide how to pursue her running career.

"I definitely want to continue running," she told correspondent Jeff Hollobaugh. "The cool thing with runners is that we can peak in our late 20s."

WR holder **Donovan Bailey** reportedly came through his September Achilles surgery well and hopes to resume training in January.

Aussie sprint star **Melinda Gainsford-Taylor** underwent surgery on her right knee after it gave out in the Commonwealth 200 final. Her rehab could last up to four months and she could miss much of Oz's domestic season.

After no shortage of physical woes, double Atlanta long sprint champion **Marie-José Pérec** finally was diagnosed as suffering from Epstein-Barr virus (the causative agent of mononucleosis). The French star was sidelined all of '98. But she hopes to resume training in Los Angeles by year's end.

Finnish javelin veteran **Seppo Räty** plans to keep throwing until 2000. He competed just once in '98 before foot problems scrubbed his season.□

Larry Ellis & Stan Wright

Track lost two respected coaches and administrators in early November when Larry Ellis and Stan Wright passed away within four days (see p. 57).

No cause was given for Ellis's death, but he had felt ill after a weekend trip. Wright died after being hospitalized with kidney problems the previous weekend.

Both men served the sport, as Wright once described himself, "by wearing three hats" as an NCAA coach, federation administrator and on Olympic coaching staffs. Ellis, head coach of the '84 Olympic men's team, coached collegiately at Princeton; Wright directed the programs at Texas Southern, Western Illinois and Sacramento State.

Ellis served as president of USATF 1992–'96. Wright served on the USOC's Board of governors in the '70s and chaired the federation's men's track & field committee. Most recently, Ellis coached the U.S. men's team at September's World Cup.

Among the athletes coached by Ellis were former long jump WR holder Bob Beamon as a high schooler and current federation CEO Craig Masback, who said, "Larry was a mentor, an inspiration, a leader... [he told me] that anything was possible in track and life."

Wright, a member of track & field's hall of fame, directed several world-class sprinters at Texas Southern, including '68 Olympic 100 champ Jim Hines.

As an Olympic assistant in '68 and '72 he coached the gold-winning sprinters in Mexico City, but remains best known, unfortunately, for the Eddie Hart-Rey Robinson incident four years later in Munich, when confusion over the time schedule led the Americans to miss their quarterfinal. Wright took full responsibility for the mix-up.

NEW YORK MARATHON

Kagwe Repeats Win

by Jim Dunaway

New York, November 1—A fiercely competitive men's race won by John Kagwe of Kenya and the second-fastest women's time here ever, by Francesca Fiacconi of Italy, made the 30th New York City Marathon a memorable one.

Kagwe, who lives and trains in Norristown, Pennsylvania, won his second straight men's race in 2:08:45, 3 seconds ahead of the same runner he beat last year, fellow Kenyan Joseph Chebet. Another 3 seconds back was Zebedayo Bayo of Tanzania.

The three pulled away from a huge lead group of 10 men as they approached the 23M mark, just before entering Central Park. For the next 3M, the trio ran together, often abreast. Then, on the slight uphill of Central Park South with less than half a mile left, Chebet made a move, gaining a quick 5m on Kagwe, while Bayo let them go.

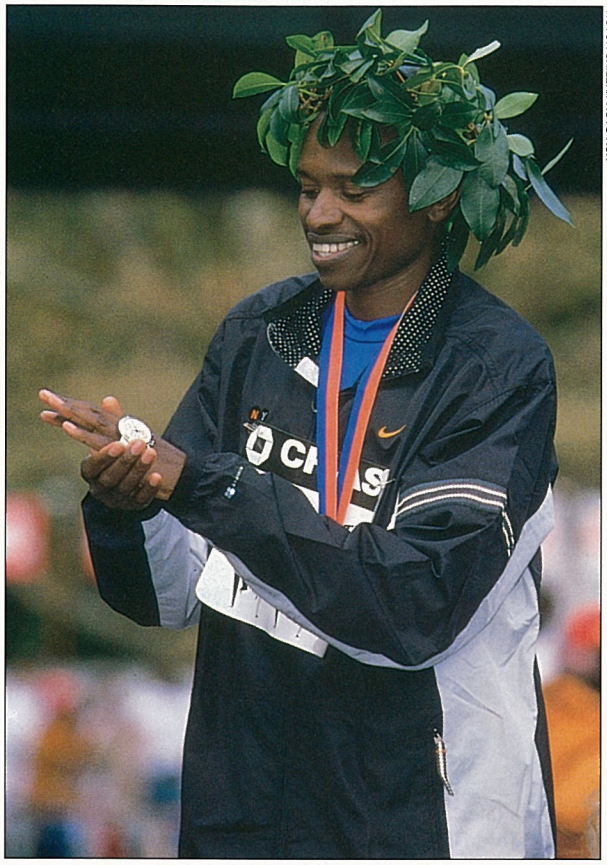
But Kagwe covered the move easily, and back in the park with 300m to go, he moved smoothly away, running the final mile in an eye-popping 4:30. Although Chebet hung in gamely, he couldn't pull Kagwe back, and Bayo's late charge was too late. He said afterwards, "When they moved, I thought we had more than a kilometer to go, so I decided to save something for the finish."

The first 20M were run at a crisp 4:54 pace (a 2:08:09 marathon), yet starting the 4M stretch of miles 16–20 along First Avenue there were perhaps 30 still in contention. Then the surges began to take their toll: world champion Abel Antón dropped out at 17M, and 3M farther on Olympic champ Josia Thugwane felt a leg muscle go and stopped.

Kagwe said, "I took the lead at 17M and I saw that everybody wanted to move when I moved and when I slowed they dropped back. So I knew nobody was going to make it fast."

Actually, at 20M Kagwe himself "made it fast." He and Chebet kept piling on the pressure until the top 10 became 3, with two-time winner German Silva the last to let go. "My tank was empty the last 2 or 3M," said Silva, but he hung on for 4th at 2:10:24, with fast finishers Vanderlei de Lima of Brazil and Roberto Barbi of Italy also finishing under 2:11.

The women's race, by contrast, was decided early and won by a comfortable margin. For half the distance, new WR claimant Tegla Loroupe pushed the pace, with help from Fiacconi, Ludmila Petrova of Russia and Adriana Fernández of Mexico. Then stomach cramps slowed the 4-11/83 Kenyan, and the 33-year-old blonde took over. She was either in the lead or in charge the rest of the way.



VICTOR SAILER/PHOTO RUN

Defender Kagwe controlled a New York Marathon where the world and Olympic champs DNFed.

"By 30km (18.6M) I knew it was my day: I made a move and my legs reacted well," said Fiacconi. "When Tegla Loroupe was not following I knew she was not in the race today."

Fiacconi kept widening her lead and finished comfortably in 2:25:17, a PR by 2:55 and an Italian Record. Some 385m back was Fernández in 2:26:33, a Mexican Record.

Loroupe straggled in 4 minutes later, followed by Petrova and 1997 winner Franziska Rochat-Moser, who has been injured much of the year.

Sixth in 2:33:06 was American Libbie Hickman, in her second "serious" marathon, finishing fast after having run cautiously and coming up from 10th in the last few miles. "Maybe sometimes I'm too conservative," she said. "I need to run in a few more races before I start running with the lead pack."

Second American, and 12th overall, was the still-amazing Joan Benoit Samuelson (see box), who didn't decide to run until 7:00 on race morning.

Marathon. Point-to point.

Men (cr—2:08:01): 1. Kagwe' (Ken) 2:08:45 ($85,000 + Dodge Intrepid); 2. Chebet (Ken) 2:08:48 ($60,000); 3. Bayo' (Tan) 2:08:51 PR ($47,500); 4. Silva' (Mex) 2:10:24; 5. de Lima' (Bra) 2:10:42; 6. Barbi' (Ita) 2:10:55 PR; 7. Chemoiywo' (Ken) 2:11:08 (debut); 8. Githuka' (Ken) 2:11:20 (debut); 9. S. Kororia' (Ken) 2:11:27;

10. Ndambuki' (Ken) 2:11:30; 11. Shvetsov' (Rus) 2:11:50; 12. Stefko' (Svk) 2:12:52; 13. Kiprop' (Ken) 2:13:32; 14. Kirwa Too' (Ken) 2:13:54; 15. Kebede' (Eth) 2:15:04; 16. Bekele' (Eth) 2:15:23; 17. Rico' (Mex) 2:15:52; 18. Vigueras (Ca) 2:16:14; 19. Guerrero' (Col) 2:16:47;

20. Ndirangu' (Ken) 2:16:59; 21. Mondragon' (Mex) 2:18:16; 22. Scudamore (FT) 2:18:20;... 36. Chuqui (NY) 2:23:56;... 47. Kamau' (Ken) 2:26:06;... 145. Bilyeu (Or) 2:38:46 (debut); 146. Nohilly (Reeb) 2:38:47 (debut);... dnf—Antón' (Spa), Di. Castro' (Por), dos Santos' (Bra), Grisales' (Col), Jo. Kariuki' (Ken), Mahon (ReebE), Mykytok (Eto), Neas (NJ), Thugwane' (SA);... rabbit—Gutierrez' (Col), Nyombi' (Uga), Pilkington (Ut), Verster' (SA).

Women (cr—2:24:40): 1. Fiacconi' (Ita) 2:25:17 NR ($75,000 + car); 2. Fernández' (Mex) 2:26:33 NR ($40,000); 3. Loroupe' (Ken) 2:30:28 ($12,500); 4. Petrova' (Rus) 2:31:09; 5. Rochat-Moser' (Swi) 2:32:37; 6. Hickman (Nik) 2:33:06 PR;

7. de Oliveira' (Bra) 2:35:12; 8. Maraoui' (Fra) 2:35:59; 9. Vinitskaya' (Blr) 2:36:53; 10. Narloch' (Bra) 2:37:33; 11. Wieciorkowska' (Pol) 2:40:39; 12. Samuelson (Nik) 2:41:06; 13. Lauck (Nik) 2:42:52;... 17. Griffin (NY) 2:46:17;... 19. Horovitz' (GB) 2:46:36;... dnf—Appell (Reeb), Biktagirova' (Rus), Catuna' (Rom), das Gracas' (Bra).

Samuelson Still Amazing

Fourteen years after she won the LA Olympic marathon, Joan Samuelson, a 41-year-old soccer mom, showed she still has the power to delight and amaze. In New York for a Nike clinic the day before the race, she canceled her return flight to Boston because it wouldn't get her home until after midnight. Next morning, she stretched, and the hip that had been sore of late felt OK. So she decided to pin on the F38 bib number she had been issued "just in case."

As the race developed, she said, "I felt really good, and I started passing people." By 20M, she was in 10th and moving up. "I felt greedy," she said. A sub-2:35 looked possible.

And then, at 22M, her body struck back. "It was like a drive-by shooting. I felt like I had a bullet in my [right] calf," she said.

Samuelson slowed but still finished 12th overall, the second American and the Masters winner, which made delaying her plane ride a day worth $3000 in unexpected prize money.

Just as important to her was the fact that her 2:41:06 qualified her for the 2000 Olympic Trials in the marathon. "That was worrying me, so I'm glad to get it over with," she said.

Then she added: "I'd like to qualify for the Olympic Trials till I'm 50, and then maybe I'll hang it up."

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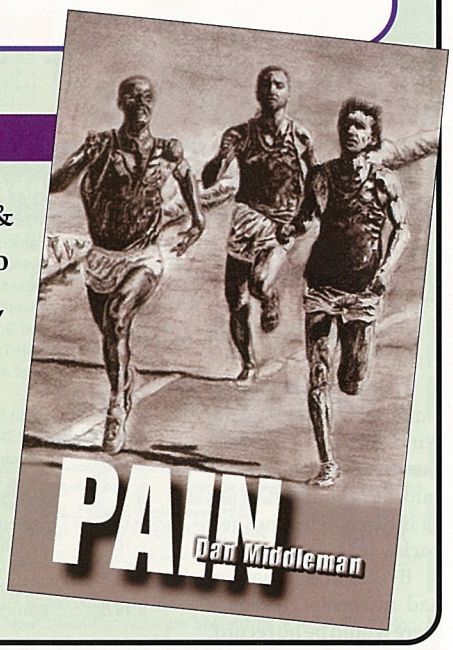
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I'd highly recommend this book as a holiday or birthday gift for the running buddy on your list." **Michael Musca,** ***Back of the Pack***



NOTE: Adult language and situations

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AMSTERDAM MARATHON

McKiernan Close

by Roy Conrad

Amsterdam, November 1—Catherina McKiernan, the Irishwoman who made 26-mile history with the fastest-ever debut in the event at Berlin last year, took a pointed stab at the World Record in the Amsterdam Marathon but came up short in the final 11km. She wound up at a none-too-shabby 2:22:23—1:36 short of Tegla Loroupe's controversial 2:20:47 WR from the Rotterdam Marathon last April.

The sixth-fastest time in history, it made the 28-year-old McKiernan the fifth-fastest performer of all time.

"On a good day, I'm certain I can get the record," she said. "It was shattering to walk out of my hotel in the morning to find the wind blowing so strong but I had come to give it a go and I did. The pacemakers did a good job for me. I was never stressed at any stage of the race, but in the end, the wind beat me."

Troublesome winds on a day where temperatures rising from the mid-40s to the mid-50s should otherwise have been conducive may have been the factor separating McKiernan's third straight marathon win from a WR effort. Most assuredly, she had attacked WR pace from the start, as there was on offer a record bonus of $500,000.

Like Loroupe, McKiernan turned to a swift and flat Dutch route where plenty of male pacemaking assistance was at hand. As was the case for Loroupe, the rabbits were certain to provoke some controversy should she have broken the record, even though the aid they provided was not as constant.

Whereas Loroupe ran behind a phalanx of men virtually from start to finish, McKiernan's blockers—10 of them in all, some assigned to the task, others merely looking to get on camera—surrounded her completely in the first half of the race (1:10:13) but fell away one by one over the second.

On pace for a 2:20:39 clocking at 40km (1:40:00), McKiernan was first knocked off stride by the wind at around 33km and had slipped to 2:21:26 pace by 35km (1:57:10).

"I don't have the physique to cope when the wind hits me head on," the 5-5/106 McKiernan said. "When it did, it felt as if I was being pushed backwards."

By 40km McKiernan had inwardly conceded there would be no record. "People were still shouting at me at that stage, still urging me on," she said, "but I knew the score."

McKiernan nevertheless finished more than a mile ahead of runner-up Sonja Oberem of Germany (2:29:30) and won about $80,000 for breaking Yoshiko Yamamoto's 5-year-old course record, 2:29:12.

Men's defender Sammy Korir of Kenya made it two in a row with a 2:08:13 finish that improved his own course record by 11 seconds and defeated countryman Simon Bor (2:08:47).

A large pack put up a first half in the 2:07 range on the two-lap course before contenders, including '95 world champion Martín Fiz, began to fall by the wayside.

Fiz, a last-minute defector from the New York Marathon, deduced he was in trouble at 15km on the blustery day but hung on until 33km before dropping out.

Thereafter, Korir and Bor broke contact with Fiz's fellow Spaniard Alberto Juzdado. Korir escaped to a solo lead shortly after 40km.



SOENAR CHAMID

McKiernan had male pacers for much of the way in her Amsterdam WR attempt, but not for the entire race.

Marathon. Loop.

Men: 1. S. Korir (Ken) 2:08:13 (course record—old, 2:08:24 Korir '97); 2. Bor (Ken) 2:08:47 PR; 3. Juzdado (Spa) 2:09:59; 4. Bastos (Bra) 2:14:57; 5. McGrath (Ire) 2:18:59;... dnf—Choloo (Tan), Fiz (Spa), Kimaiyo (Ken), Naali (Tan);... rabbits—J. Ondieki (Ken), B. Serrano (Spa), Singoei (Ken).

Women: 1. McKiernan (Ire) 2:22:23 NR (5, 6 W) (course record—old, 2:29:12 Yamamoto [Jpn] '93) (1:10:13/1:12:10); 2. Oberem (Ger) 2:29:30; 3. Alemu (Eth) 2:30:19; 4. Kimaiyo (Ken) 2:33:56; 5. Jensen (Den) 2:39:23.

— 1998 Marathon Top 10 Lists —

— Men —

WR—2:06:05, AR—2:09:35

2:06:05	Ronaldo da Costa (Bra)	Berlin
2:06:55	Ondoro Osoro (Ken)	Chicago
2:07:19	Khalid Khannouchi (Mor)	Chicago
2:07:26	Fabián Roncero (Spa)	Rotterdam
2:07:27	Josephat Kiprono (Ken)	Berlin
2:07:34'	Moses Tanui (Ken)	Boston
2:07:37'	Joseph Chebet (Ken)	Boston
2:07:44	Lee Bong-ju (SK)	Rotterdam
2:07:45	Gert Thys (SA)	Chicago
2:07:57	Abel Antón (Spa)	London
U.S List:		
2:12:31	Keith Brantly (NBal)	Pittsburgh
2:13:02	Rod DeHaven (NBal)	Chicago
2:14:52	Alfredo Vigueras (Ca)	Pittsburgh
2:15:25	David Morris (NM)	Pittsburgh
2:15:33	Mark Coogan (NBal)	Chicago
2:15:40	John Sence (Oh)	Chicago
2:16:30	Jon Hume (Miz)	Grandma's
2:16:48	Rene Guillen (Tx)	Austin
	Joseph McVeigh (NJ)	Boston
2:16:52	Darrell General (Md)	Austin

— Women —

WR—2:20:47, AR—2:21:21

2:20:47	Tegla Loroupe (Ken)	Rotterdam
2:22:23	Catherina McKiernan (Ire)	Amsterdam
2:23:21'	Fatuma Roba (Eth)	Boston
2:23:57	Joyce Chepchumba (Ken)	Chicago
2:25:17	Franca Fiacconi (Ita)	New York
2:25:21	Katrin Dörre-Heinig (Ger)	Hamburg
2:25:22	Marleen Renders (Bel)	Berlin
2:25:45	Sun Yingjie (Chn)	Tianjin
2:25:48	Naoko Takahashi (Jpn)	Nagoya
2:26:11	Junko Asari (Jpn)	Rotterdam
U.S List:		
2:32:37	Kristy Johnston (Reeb)	Chicago
2:33:06	Libbie Hickman (Nik)	New York
2:33:37	Gwyn Coogan (NBal)	Houston
2:34:21	Linda Somers-Smith (adi)	Chicago
2:35:18'	Mary-Lynn Currier (Ma)	Boston
2:35:44	Kim Jones (Reeb)	Houston
2:38:03	Cindy James (Il)	Grandma's
2:38:29	Kristin Schwartz (Co)	Chicago
2:39:37	Cheryl Collins (Pa)	Grandma's
2:39:49'	Cindy Keeler (BRC)	Boston

Trials Dates Set

Dates for the 2000 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials have been set.

The women's race in Columbia, South Carolina, will be held on February 26 of the Olympic year. May 7 will be the date of the men's trial in Pittsburgh.

To qualify for the women's Trial, athletes must run 2:50:00 or faster either at last January's Houston Marathon or during the period from April 1 of 1998 through January 27, 2000. USATF will cover

travel expenses and room and board at the Trial for athletes who run 2:42:00 or faster during that time.

Men must run 2:22:00 or faster during a time window that opened on May 3, 1998. Although no official men's qualifying closing date has been announced, USATF has indicated it will be "similar to the women's"—roughly a month before the Trial.

The federation will cover expenses for those who run 2:20:00 or faster.

As of November 8, 35 men and 96 women had qualified for the Trials, with 20 men and 22 women meeting the "A" reimbursement standards.

Dates for the 2000 Olympic 26-milers in Sydney are September 23 for the women and October 1 for the men.

Rono Rockin' Rollin'...

The U.S. road circuit these days, no matter what the season, often seems like a blizzard of fast Kenyan names. In the 1998 season, one on the men's side has stood out: Simon Rono's. He certainly figured prominently on the last three weekends of October, winning at the Southtrust Running Festival 10-Miler (St. Petersburg, Florida), the Express-News Alamo 10K (San Antonio, Texas) and the Tulsa Run 15K.

At Southtrust, Rono broke away from a cautious pack (4:47 first mile) after 5M and cruised to a 47:20 clocking as he defeated countryman John Kagwe (47:31) and Mexican Gabino Apolonio (47:36) and a rush of 10 fast African runners behind them.

In the Express-News 10K, he surged at 5km to pick up a $1000 prime available to the first runner past that point to also finish the race in the top 10. The day was windy, but Rono outkicked Godfrey Kiprotich, also of Kenya, for a same-time 28:29 victory.

At the Tulsa Run, a deep field carried the leaders past 10km in a smoking 28:40. Rono again won with a kick in 43:24, bringing his prize cash haul for the three races to $18,000.

"This is my last race of the year, so I wanted to do well," Rono said. And it was quite a year for the man who also won the Crescent City 10K, Bolder Boulder 10K and Bay to Breakers 12K.

...Ndereba Too

Catherine Ndereba's macadam year was even more victorious than Rono's. She won 14 races on the U.S. circuit, and lost just once—to Libbie Hickman at the Tufts 10K (*T&FN*, December).

The mother of an infant daughter, Ndereba took Southtrust in 52:25—67 seconds faster than the course record Joyce Chepchumba set last year—winning from training partner Teresa Wanjiku (53:36) after breaking away at a mile and a half.

Ndereba's break at Express-News came similarly early. She led by 50m at 2M on the way to a 31:51 clocking and a win over countrywoman Jane Ngotho (32:40). In Tulsa, she took over at the halfway mark to take the day in 48:55, to Wanjiku's 49:02.

SENIOR BOWL 10K

Williams Swerves To Win

Mobile, Alabama, November 7—A near run-in with a car 600m from the finish couldn't deter Andre Williams from winning the Delchamps Senior Bowl 10K in 29:00 from U.S. marathon list leader Rod DeHaven (29:03).

Twenty-seven-year-old North Carolina grad Williams and eventual 3rd-placer Teddy Mitchell (29:04) had pulled away from the field in this USA Road Circuit event at 5M and Williams had surged again to cut loose alone when the car strayed into his path from a side street.

"I saw it come out, and I had to put on the brakes. It broke my rhythm, but everything still worked out," Williams said.

Getting to the race, the winner had suffered through a canceled flight, an overbooked connecting flight and a bus trip from New Orleans to reach the starting line.

DeHaven's placing moves him into the USARC lead for the year, worth $6000 if he holds it through the one race remaining, the Jacksonville Gator Bowl 10K on December 31.

In her first-ever 10K, Elva Dryer grabbed the women's victory by a second from Cheri Kenah, 33:02–33:03. Nnenna Lynch placed 3rd in 33:32. □

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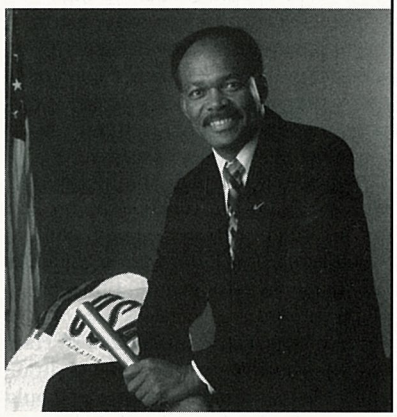
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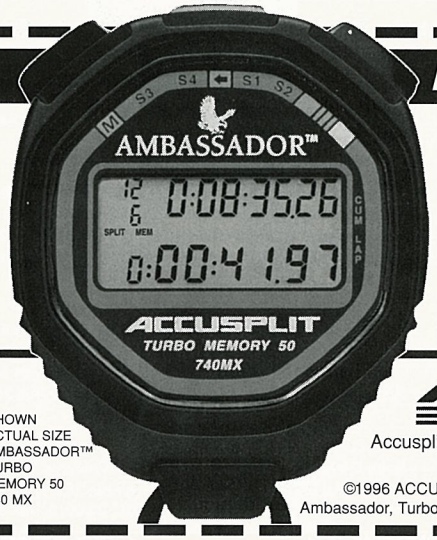
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CONFERENCE XC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Questions, Questions

IN THE SHORT SPAN of a cross country season, three weeks is an eternity. Nevertheless, conference weekend, three weeks ahead of the NCAA Championships, raised two tough team battle questions.

Is the two-time defending national champion Stanford men's team strong enough up front to hold off Arkansas?

Does the return to action of defending individual champion Carrie Tollefson raise the prospect of the Villanova women upsetting BYU at Rim Rock Farm on November 23?

At its home Chile Pepper Invitational on October 17, Arkansas rolled its top guns. Michael Power—12th at the '97 nationals, but sidelined early this season by Achilles pain—returned to the lineup and finished 4th in the race, within 2 seconds of Razorback first man Sean Kaley.

Arkansas picked up a 28–51 win over runner-up Life, the NAIA power led by a Sammy Nyamongo/Francis Kirwa 1-2.

The reappearance of Power, it turned out, was a mere prelude to the Aussie junior's win at the SEC Championships, where Arkansas runners went 1-3-4-5-6-7 to down runner-up Tennessee 19–63 with a 51-second spread for the scoring 5.

Stanford, meanwhile, benefited from the mid-October return of soph Jonathon Riley (23rd at the '97 NCAA) to active status after an injury-plagued spring and summer. Riley placed 2nd by a second to teammate Brent Hauser at the Arizona State Invitational and two weeks later placed 6th at the Pac-10. That made him the second Cardinal runner, behind NCAA 10,000 champ Brad Hauser, on the team that eked out a 48–50 title defense over Oregon.

Riley—19 seconds behind Brad Hauser and 37 behind winner Abdi Abdirahman of Arizona at the conference—could move up further by nationals to help his team's cause. Coach Vin Lananna has to hope his other young mile star, Gabe Jennings, doesn't keep sliding the other direction. Jennings, a comfortable winner at the Stanford Invitational in September, suffered a calf injury setback and placed 44th in the Pac-10. His absence from Stanford's top 5 could hurt, as Oregon's close finish showed.

At the Big East Championships, Tollefson's absence since foot surgery last December finally ended—with auspicious repurcussions for her team. Although Providence's Sarah Dupre outkicked Boston College's Angela Graham and Notre Dame's JoAnna Deeter for the individual title, Tollefson crossed the line just 8 seconds out of the win in 4th.

The senior thus led a Villanova 4-6-7-8-15 effort, good for a 40–53 win over tough Georgetown—and all with 'Nova's NCAA 1500 champ, Carmen Douma, held out. Douma placed 6th at last year's NCAA cross country.

If Douma returns as expected, deep-deep team defender BYU—winner of the WAC with a 22-point total—looks potentially assailable at the top end.

Major conference meets (held October 31 unless otherwise noted; distances c8K for men, c5K for women):

— MEN —

ACC, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 2—
Leading Teams: 1. NC State 26; 2. Duke 75; 3. Clemson 94; 4. Virginia 101; 5. North Carolina 121; 6. Wake Forest 169.
Individuals: 1. Rodgers (NCSt) 24:37; 2. Gibson (Clem) 24:46; 3. Dugan (NCSt) 24:52; 4. Thiele (Va) 24:54; 5. Pluchos (NCSt) 24:55.


HERB RYAN

At the Big East, Deeter (l) led early, Dupre kicked to win, and Tollefson (r) paced team titlist Villanova.

Big 10, Ann Arbor, Michigan—
Leading Teams: 1. Michigan 50; 2. Michigan State 64; 3. Wisconsin 70; 4. Minnesota 83; 5. Iowa 110; 6. Ohio State 181.
Individuals: 1. Downin (Wi) 24:06; 2. Taylor (MiSt) 24:23; 3. Mortimer (Mi) 24:24; 4. Schoenfelder (Wi) 24:29; 5. Snyder (Mi) 24:34.

Big 12, Lincoln, Nebraska—
Leading Teams: 1. Colorado 31; 2. Oklahoma State 46; 3. Missouri 98; 4. Texas 110; 5. Kansas State 153.
Individuals: 1. Goucher (Co) 23:46; 2. Sloan (Ok) 24:36; 3. Friedberg (Co) 24:41; 4. Too' (IaSt) 24:43; 5. Jensen (Ks) 24:44.

Big East, Boston, October 30—
Leading Teams: 1. Providence 36; 2. Georgetown 75; 3. Notre Dame 91; 4. West Virginia 105; 5. Villanova 119.
Individuals: 1. Noad' (Prov) 23:37; 2. Kelly' (Prov) 23:44; 3. DeBenedictus (SH) 23:53; 4. Bohan (WV) 24:00; 5. McCarthy (Gtn) 24:01.

Big Sky, Bozeman, Montana (altitude 1501m)—
Leading Teams: 1. Northern Arizona 38; 2. Weber State 49; 3. Idaho State 83; 4. Montana 92; 5. Montana State 94.
Individuals: 1. Herman (NnAz) 24:24; 2. Osaduik (NnAz) 24:31; 3. Jacobsen (NnAz) 24:45; 4. Shoenfeld (Web) 24:50; 5. Carr (IdSt) 24:51.

Pac-10, Eugene, Oregon—
Teams: 1. Stanford 48; 2. Oregon 50; 3. Arizona 90; 4. Arizona State 124; 5. tie, Washington & Washington State 136; 7. Cal 171; 8. UCLA 179.
Individuals: 1. Abdirahman (Az) 23:23; 2. Lagat' (WaSt) 23:33; 3. Ma. Davis (Or) 23:37; 4. Bra. Hauser (Stan) 23:41; 5. Hauser (UCLA) 23:51.

SEC, Knoxville, Tennessee—
Leading Teams: 1. Arkansas 19; 2. Tennessee 63; 3. Florida 76; 4. Georgia 121; 5. LSU 146.
Individuals: 1. Power' (Ar) 23:56; 2. Ellington (Tn) 24:15; 3. Kaley (Ar) 24:18; 4. Kerr' (Ar) 24:25; 5. Lassiter (Ar) 24:33.

— WOMEN —

ACC, Charlottesville, November 2—
Leading Teams: 1. NC State 32; 2. North Carolina 65; 3. Wake Forest 75; 4. Clemson 99; 5. Virginia 114; 6. Duke 155.
Individuals: 1. Kraus (WF) 17:07; 2. Nervo (NC) 17:18; 3. Rogers (NCSt) 17:27; 4. Modliszewski (NCSt) 17:33; 5. Sabino (Va) 17:36.

Big 10, Ann Arbor—
Leading Teams: 1. Wisconsin 31; 2. Michigan 36; 3. Minnesota 104; 4. Penn State 105; 5. Michigan State 125.
Individuals: 1. McGregor (Mi) 17:16; 2. Palmer (Wi) 17:22; 3. Michniovainé' (Mn) 17:26; 4. Deatherage (Wi) 17:40; 5. Brewster (Wi) 17:42.

Big 12, Lincoln—
Leading Teams: 1. Kansas State 78; 2. Colorado 99; 3. Missouri 106; 4. Texas 110; 5. Baylor 113; 6. Oklahoma State 114; 7. Nebraska 138; 8. Iowa State 150; 9. Oklahoma 207.
Individuals: 1. Smith (Bay) 17:18; 2. Smedstad' (OkSt) 17:26; 3. Diaz (Tx) 17:33; 4. Burroughs (Co) 17:38; 5. Lindquist' (OkSt) 17:43.

Big East, Boston, October 30—
Leading Teams: 1. Villanova 40; 2. Georgetown 53; 3. Providence 67; 4. Boston College 129; 5. Notre Dame 144.
Individuals: 1. Dupre' (Prov) 16:51; 2. Graham' (BC) 16:55; 3. Deeter (NDm) 16:56; 4. Tollefson (Vill) 16:59; 5. Gordon (Gtn) 17:02.

Big Sky, Bozeman (altitude 1501m)—
Leading Teams: 1. Northern Arizona 29; 2. Weber State 55; 3. Montana 74; 4. Idaho State 100; 5. Montana State 152.
Individuals: 1. Pedersen' (NnAz) 17:34; 2. Maughan (Web) 17:36; 3. Allison (NnAz) 17:38; 4. Hess (Web) 17:45; 5. Swier (NnAz) 17:49.

Pac-10, Eugene—
Leading Teams: 1. Stanford 53; 2. Washington 74; 3. Arizona 92; 4. Arizona State 122; 5. Oregon 125; 6. Washington State 154.
Individuals: 1. Skieresz (Az) 16:59; 2. Stamps (Stan) 17:24; 3. Glynn (Stan) 17:24; 4. Smith (Wa) 17:27; 5. Davis (Or) 17:31.

SEC, Knoxville—
Leading Teams: 1. Arkansas 25; 2. Florida 48; 3. Tennessee 73; 4. Alabama 147; 5. Georgia 157.
Individuals: 1. Yoder (Ar) 16:53; 2. Koch (Ar) 16:55; 3. Robertson' (Ar) 16:57; 4. LaBudde (Al) 17:33; 5. Bockel (Ar) 17:34.

WAC, Houston—
Leading Teams: 1. BYU 22; 2. Colorado State 84; 3. TCU 107; 4. Air Force 157; 5. Utah 159.
Individuals: 1. Chan' (BYU) 16:54; 2. Fortner (UNLV) 17:10; 3. Shields (BYU) 17:15; 4. Keitany' (TCU) 17:18; 5. Meldrum (BYU) 17:22.

REGIONAL XC CHAMPIONSHIPS — MEN

Questions Remain

NOVEMBER 14—If you were hoping for answers to the Stanford-vs-Arkansas question to come out of the Regionals, you didn't get them. Both squads looked terrific, yet both squads held out prized milers, setting up a great confrontation at the Nationals.

Remember that this year the Nationals field has been expanded from 22 to 31 teams. Thus, from each region the top 2 teams and the top 4 individuals not on a qualifying team automatically qualified.

Additionally, 13 teams and 2 individuals (noted by *) were selected on an at-large basis.

All courses 10,000m (6.21M):

Northeast

Bronx, New York—A 1-3 finish by senior Keith Kelly and junior Ben Noad raised defender Providence's string of consecutive NCAA appearances to four.

Teams: 1. Providence 45; 2. Dartmouth 59; 3. Iona* 67; 4. Columbia 87; 5. Army 149; 6. Brown 202; 7. New Hampshire 252; 8. Cornell 258; 9. Yale 260; 10. Connecticut 267.

Individuals: 1. Kelly' (Prov) 30:47; 2. Santos' (Iona) 31:11; 3. Noad' (Prov) 31:15; 4. Grant (Col) 31:18; 5. Conrad (Dart) 31:41; 6. Goff (Army) 31:46; 7. Nickerson (Dart) 31:50; 8. Mulvey (Iona) 31:54; 9. Bush (Prov) 31:58; 10. Pruett (Dart) 32:00.

Mid-Atlantic

Annapolis, Maryland—Princeton won just as last year, while '97's individual 4th-placer Daniel Kinyua of Mt. St. Mary's moved up to deny Kevin McCarthy of Georgetown a second straight regional win.

Teams: 1. Princeton 57; 2. Georgetown 76; 3. Bucknell 104; 4. Villanova 107; 5. West Virginia 153; 6. Navy 173; 7. LaSalle 210; 8. St. Joseph's 241; 9. Penn State 295; 10. Lafayette 309.

Individuals: 1. Kinyua' (MSM) 30:58; 2. McCarthy (Gtn) 31:02; 3. DeBenedictis (SH) 31:10; 4. Dunn' (Vill) 31:16; 5. Bohan (WV) 31:16; 6. Jordan (Gtn) 31:23; 7. Morrison (Prin) 31:26; 8. Myles* (LaS) 31:34; 9. Colling (Prin) 31:35; 10. Kodak (Buck) 31:35.

Southeast

Greenville, South Carolina—James Madison upset the formcharts, placing senior Russ Coleman ahead of defender Matt Lane as individual winner and upending NC State for the team victory.

Teams: 1. James Madison 50; 2. NC State 73; 3. Duke* 131; 4. William & Mary* 135; 5. Clemson 148; 6. Western Kentucky 157; 7. Virginia 184; 8. NC Charlotte 193; 9. North Carolina 273; 10. Liberty 322.

Individuals: 1. Coleman (JM) 30:06; 2. Lane (WM) 30:06; 3. Rodgers (NCSt) 30:07; 4. Githuka' (Lib) 30:14; 5. Thiele (Va) 30:15; 6. Cooke (JM) 30:20; 7. Gibson (Clem) 30:21; 8. Khayr' (EnKy) 30:21; 9. Fox (JM) 30:22; 10. Koech' (EnKy) 30:29.

South

Birmingham, Alabama—Tennessee-Chattanooga sneaked by more heralded cross-state rival Tennessee, with Moc senior Nic Crider holding off Vol senior Doug Ellington individually.

Teams: 1. Tennessee-Chattanooga 77; 2. Tennessee 92; 3. South Florida* 98; 4. Florida 126; 5. Georgia 175; 6. Georgia Tech 201; 7. Mississippi 218; 8. East Tennessee 233; 9. Florida State 247; 10. Miami 302.

Individuals: 1. Crider (TnCh) 30:59; 2. Ellington (Tn) 31:10; 3. Rop' (JackSt) 31:12; 4. Green (Troy) 31:13; 5. Gerbers (SFl) 31:16; 6. Stoker (TnCh) 31:17; 7. Pierdbon (Ga) 31:24; 8. Whitmarsh' (ETn) 31:27; 9. El Majdoubi'* (SnMs) 31:27; 10. Famiglietti (Tn) 31:28.

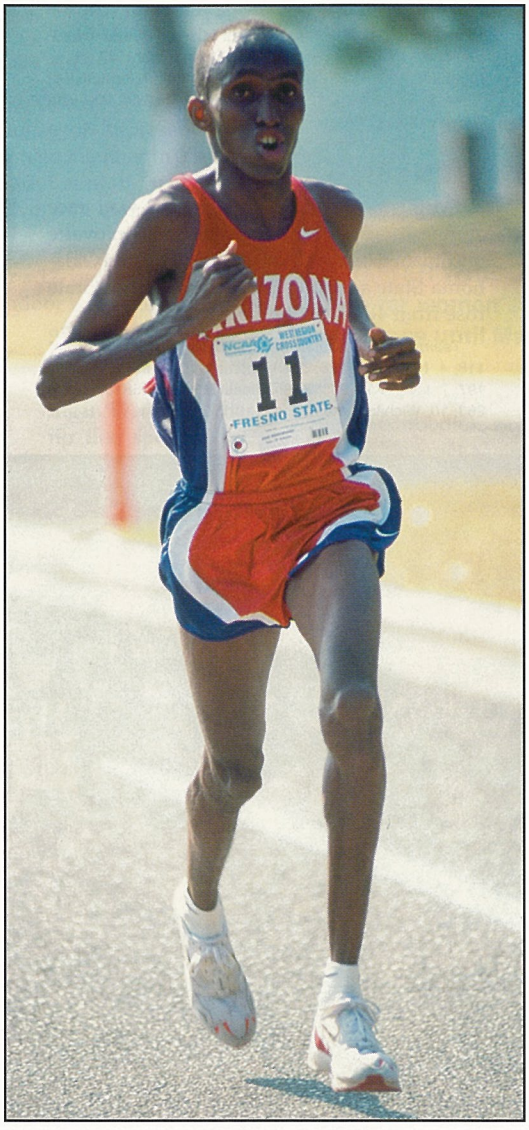
Great Lakes

Terre Haute, Indiana—Michigan State reversed its Big 10 fortunes against archrival Michigan, moving up from a '97 3rd-place finish. Butler senior Julius Mwangi maintained his hold on NCAA cofavorite status with an unpressed victory.

Teams: 1. Michigan State 58; 2. Michigan 82; 3. Butler* 96; 4. Wisconsin* 102; 5. Central Michigan* 138; 6. Miami* 147; 7. Ohio State 165; 8. Notre Dame 192; 9. Eastern Michigan 211; 10. Indiana State 243.

Individuals: 1. Mwangi' (But) 30:21; 2. Snyder (Mi) 30:34; 3. Taylor (MiSt) 30:42; 4. Schoenfelder (Wi) 30:42; 5. Connor (OhSt) 30:50; 6. Downin (Wi) 30:51; 7. Jurcevich (MiSt) 30:54; 8. Schell (MiSt) 30:59; 9. Young (But) 31:12; 10. Shay (NDm) 31:21.

Abdirahman confirmed his Pac-10 win with a solid victory in the West Regional.



BILL LEUNG JR./GEEK MEDIA

Midwest

Augusta, Kansas—Illinois State senior Chris Bailey, the Missouri Valley champion, grabbed top individual honors, and favored Oklahoma State beat out a surprising Iowa squad.

Teams: 1. Oklahoma State 42; 2. Iowa 81; 3. Minnesota* 100; 4. Missouri* 126; 5. Illinois 221; 6. Southern Illinois 223; 7. Drake 237; 8. Loyola 238; 9. Illinois State 240; 10. Kansas State 247.

Individuals: 1. Bailey (IlSt) 30:53; 2. Jensen (Ks) 30:55; 3. Jessop (KsSt) 31:02; 4. Sloan (OkSt) 31:05; 5. Churu' (OkSt) 31:06; 6. Parks (SnIl) 31:09; 7. Pierce (Mn) 31:13; 8. Smith (Mo) 31:18; 9. Steele (Ia) 31:19; 10. Carlsen' (OkSt) 31:23.

South Central

Denton, Texas—Arkansas appeared ready for Lawrence, scoring just 21 points behind the win of SEC champ Michael Power. The 36-second spread among its scoring 5 showed promise, and mile star Seneca Lassiter didn't run.

Teams: 1. Arkansas 21; 2. Tulane 105; 3. SMU 114; 4. Texas 134; 5. TCU 173; 6. Rice 214; 7. North Texas 216; 8. Texas A&M 230; 9. McNeese 252; 10. LSU 276.

Individuals: 1. Power' (Ar) 30:59; 2. Begley (Ar) 30:59; 3. Kaley (Ar) 31:03; 4. Kipyegon' (Tul) 31:18; 5. Colenso' (SMU) 31:27; 6. Mokgokhu' (SMU) 31:28; 7. Zack (Ar) 31:32; 8. Link' (Ar) 31:35; 9. Lagat' (TCU) 31:36; 10. Skoog' (UTA) 31:54.

Mountain

Salt Lake City, Utah—Adam Goucher put up the most dominating win of all, opening a 42-second margin and leading his Colorado team's expected win over Northern Arizona.

Teams: 1. Colorado 34; 2. Northern Arizona 60; 3. Weber State 98; 4. BYU 122; 5. Idaho State 152; 6. Utah 170; 7. Montana 188; 8. Air Force 190; 9. Colorado State 206; 10. Wyoming 243.

Individuals (altitude 1321m): 1. Goucher (Co) 30:44; 2. Simonich (Ut) 31:26; 3. Poulsen (BYU) 31:42; 4. Herman' (NnAz) 31:46; 5. Friedberg (Co) 31:47; 6. Ozaduik' (NnAz) 31:48; 7. Carr (IdSt) 31:55; 8. Reese (Co) 31:56; 9. Batliner (Co) 31:57; 10. James (SnUt) 31:58.

West

Fresno, California—Defending NCAA champion Stanford picked up a comfortable victory even while resting milers Jonathon Riley and Gabe Jennings. The prospect of a healthy, fit return of one or both to the nationals lineup is key to Cardinal hopes. Pac-10 winner Abdi Abdirahman of Arizona continued his roll.

Teams: 1. Stanford 37; 2. Oregon 65; 3. Washington State* 129; 4. tie, Arizona* & Portland* 133; 6. Washington 144; 7. Cal Poly SLO 169; 8. Arizona State 187; 9. UCLA 212; 10. Cal 235.

Individuals: 1. Abdirahman (Az) 30:06; 2. Bra. Hauser (Stan) 30:12; 3. M. Davis (Or) 30:23; 4. Lagat' (WaSt) 30:37; 5. Balkman (Stan) 30:42; 6. Bre. Hauser (Stan) 30:44; 7. Hauser (UCLA) 30:46; 8. Fein (Or) 30:53; 9. Aubrey (Or) 30:58; 10. Weldon (Stan) 31:03.

REGIONAL XC CHAMPIONSHIPS —WOMEN

Villanova Is Rising

NOVEMBER 15—In the Northeast women's regional, Villanova showed it may indeed challenge BYU at the NCAA, and that defending champ Carrie Tollefson is back in fine form and ready to challenge Arizona's Amy Skieresz again.

Qualifying parameters are the same as for men. All courses 5000m (3.11M):

Northeast

Bronx, New York—Providence, a top-10 team at each of the past 9 NCAAs, took an easy win over Cornell. Boston University's Larissa Kleinmann beat out Providence No. 1 Sarah Dupre, reversing their New Englands positions.

Teams: 1. Providence 70; 2. Cornell 122; 3. Boston College 131; 4. Brown 142; 5. Dartmouth 156; 6. Boston U 167; 7. Massachusetts 268; 8. Columbia 274; 9. Vermont 283; 10. Syracuse 285.

Individuals: 1. Kleinmann (BU) 17:21; 2. Dupre' (Prov) 17:25; 3. Graham' (BC) 17:28; 4. Hixson (Prov) 17:30; 5. Germano (Corn) 17:47; 6. Kelly (Yale) 17:55; 7. Devlin (Dart) 18:00; 8. Moriarty* (Brown) 18:01; 9. Ryan (BC) 18:02; 10. Bendana (StJ) 18:06.

Mid-Atlantic

Annapolis, Maryland—With '97 NCAA champ Carrie Tollefson leading the way and NCAA 1500 champion Carmen Douma returning after a stomach virus, Villanova easily handled a tough Georgetown team by 13.

Teams: 1. Villanova 19; 2. Georgetown 32; 3. Penn 118; 4. Princeton 122; 5. West Virginia 134; 6. Navy 169; 7. LaSalle 191; 8. St. Joseph's 206; 9. Bucknell 219; 10. Rutgers 239.

Individuals: 1. Tollefson (Vill) 17:16; 2. Goodman (Vill) 17:20; 3. Gordon (Gtn) 17:23; 4. Nicolini (Vill) 17:34; 5. Douma' (Vill) 17:35; 6. Fogg (Gtn) 17:36; 7. McGranahan (Vill) 17:40; 8. Jost (Vill) 17:48; 9. Garber (Penn) 17:57; 10. Kane (StJos) 18:00.

Southeast

Greenville, South Carolina—Wake Forest junior Janelle Kraus moved up from 4th in '97 for the individual win but couldn't take the Deamon Deacons past team winner NC State.

Teams: 1. NC State 47; 2. Wake Forest 73; 3. North Carolina* 108; 4. William & Mary* 117; 5. Eastern Kentucky 165; 6. Virginia 192; 7. James Madison 223; 8. Clemson 226; 9. Duke 295; 10. Virginia Commonwealth 341.

Individuals: 1. Kraus (WF) 17:04; 2. Calle (VaC) 17:23; 3. Rogers (NCSt) 17:24; 4. Harrelson (Appy) 17:32; 5. Newberry (WM) 17:33; 6. Nervo (NC) 17:33; 7. Sabino (NCSt) 17:43; 8. Williams (CCar) 17:45; 9. Beykirch (NCSt) 17:45; 10. Wallace (WF) 17:46.

South

Birmingham, Alabama—The same five teams that fronted the men's race led here, but with a mixing of the order. Florida proved deep enough to overcome South Florida's 1-2 by Minna Rasimus and Maria Otto.

Teams: 1. Florida 34; 2. South Florida 59; 3. Tennessee* 86; 4. Tennessee-Chattanooga 117; 5. Georgia 209; 6. Alabama 215; 7. Vanderbilt 240; 8. Georgia State 269; 9. Georgia Tech 274; 10. Miami 302.

Individuals: 1. Rasimus' (SFl) 17:03; 2. Otto' (SFl) 17:09; 3. Reed (Fl) 17:21; 4. Ferris (Tn) 17:24; 5. Clark (Fl) 17:25; 6. McGranahan (Fl) 17:26; 7. Grizzle (Fl) 17:27; 8. Hopkins (UAB) 17:28; 9. Labudde (Al) 17:31; 10. Megesi (GaT) 17:36.

Great Lakes

Terre Haute, Indiana—With teams from outside the Big 10 added to the race, Wisconsin improved on its conference margin over Michigan, though the Wolverine's Indoor 3000 champ Katie McGregor won individually.

Teams: 1. Wisconsin 39; 2. Michigan 53; 3. Bowling Green 133; 4. Notre Dame 137; 5. Ohio 151; 6. Michigan State 187; 7. Eastern Michigan 239; 8. Butler 260; 9. Marquette 275; 10. Kent State 332.

Individuals: 1. McGregor (Mi) 17:03; 2. Deeter (NDm) 17:14; 3. Palmer (Wi) 17:17; 4. Conrad (Oh) 17:29; 5. Deatherage (Wi) 17:39; 6. Brewster (Wi) 17:44; 7. Kampfe (Mi) 17:44; 8. Converse (Oh) 17:45; 9. Slater (Mi) 17:54; 10. Licht-Ordway (BG) 17:54.

Midwest

Augusta, Kansas—In a close 3-way race among juniors, Minnesota's Rasa Michniovaité outfinished Bradley's Mary Ellen Hill and Oklahoma State's Hanna Smedstad. Kansas State rose from 4th in '97 to the win.

Teams: 1. Kansas State 92; 2. Missouri 110; 3. Minnesota* 118; 4. Nebraska* 128; 5. Oklahoma State* 152; 6. Bradley 197; 7. Iowa State 250; 8. Southeast Missouri 258; 9. Loyola 263; 10. Wichita State 292.

Individuals: 1. Michniovaité' (Mn) 17:08; 2. Hill (Brad) 17:09; 3. Smedstad' (OkSt) 17:09; 4. Quigley (SEMo) 17:20; 5. Vullum' (Tuls) 17:33; 6. Hinds' (KsSt) 17:36; 7. Brooks (Mo) 17:38; 8. Eggleston (Mn) 17:39; 9. Wetterhus (KsSt) 17:41; 10. Swartz (Wich) 17:43.

South Central

Denton, Texas—The formidable 1-2 punch of Amy Yoder and Jessica Koch set up Arkansas's win over Baylor, a repeat of last year's team order.

Teams: 1. Arkansas 43; 2. Baylor 69; 3. Texas* 87; 4. TCU 158; 5. tie, Rice & Texas A&M 154; 7. McNeese 200; 8. Houston 225; 9. LSU 229; 10. SF Austin 232.

Individuals: 1. Yoder (Ar) 17:10; 2. Koch (Ar) 17:15; 3. Keitany' (TCU) 17:28; 4. Ernström' (Bay) 17:29; 5. Smith (Bay) 17:30; 6. Robertson' (Ar) 17:32; 7. Brand (Rice) 17:49; 8. Salmon' (McN) 17:55; 9. Bockel (Ar) 18:00; 10. Diaz (Tx) 18:01.

Mountain

Salt Lake City, Utah—NCAA team defender BYU scored 1 point less than it did taking the region last year, behind a Maggie Chan-Elizabeth Jackson-Kara Ormond 1-2-3.

Teams: 1. BYU 28; 2. Colorado 69; 3. Northern Arizona* 95; 4. Colorado State* 125; 5. Utah State 165; 6. Weber State 172; 7. Montana 210; 8. Southern Utah 211; 9. Utah 234; 10. Montana State 248.

Individuals (altitude 1321m): 1. Chan' (BYU) 17:33; 2. E. Jackson (BYU) 17:51; 3. Ormond (BYU) 17:56; 4. Hess (Web) 17:57; 5. Allison (NnAz) 18:02; 6. Anderson (Mt) 18:03; 7. Burroughs (Co) 18:05; 8. Stott-Messick (Co) 18:05; 9. Swier (NnAz) 18:08; 10. Meldrum (BYU) 18:15.

West

Fresno, California—Arizona's depth upset Stanford, which had the race won through 4 runners. Wildcat senior Amy Skieresz got her fourth straight regional victory.

Teams: 1. Arizona 78; 2. Stanford 80; 3. Washington 110; 4. Oregon* 118; 5. UCLA* 164; 6. Arizona State* 176; 7. UC Irvine 188; 8. Washington State 225; 9. Cal 270; 10. Boise State 280.

Individuals: 1. Skieresz (Az) 16:26; 2. Stamps (Stan) 16:33; 3. Villa (UCI) 16:54; 4. Davis (Or) 16:58; 5. Campbell (Boise) 17:02; 6. Fortner (UNLV) 17:04; 7. E. Riedy (Cal) 17:08; 8. Glynn (Stan) 17:12; 9. Maynard* (WaSt) 17:12; 10. Penc' (USC) 17:14. □



PATRICK COLLARD

Janelle Kraus of Wake Forest (231) was up front early in the Southeast and stayed there.

ON YOUR MARKS

SPRINT SMACK: World 100m recordholder Donovan Bailey is limping, not running, after surgery to repair his ruptured Achilles, but his mouth keeps moving.

Trash talk at this summer's Goodwill Games distracted him, he claims: "I got caught up in the things that were being said by the other less intelligent competitors."…

Whereas lanes 1 and 2 on a track would logically seem to be the "slow" lanes in any race around the curve, a study at Texas A&M found no significant variation in the speed of 15 test subjects when they sprinted in lanes 1, 4 and 8. Know any sprinters who'd buy that?…

Nine metropolitan areas are vying for the USOC's favor as U.S. bid city for the 2012 Olympics: Baltimore, Washington, Cincinnati, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Orlando-Tampa and San Francisco…

The Jermaine Lewis who is putting up big numbers with football's Baltimore Ravens is the same Lewis who set a prep indoor 200 record of 21.40 in '92…

Who knew? Turns out that noted basketball coach Tex Winter is one and the same as Fred Winter, who placed 3rd in the '43 NCAA vault for Oregon State.

Winter's PR of 14-1/4 while a senior at USC in '46 led the world list for that year.

• • •

U.S. MARATHONERS seem to be missing in action. Marty Post of *Runner's World* notes that there were no fewer than 267 U.S. men's performances under 2:20 back in '83. This year, as of the November 8–9 weekend, there had been just 27…

Here's one way to help U.S. marathon fortunes. In a rant on his national radio show following more Kenyan successes at New York, sports talk host Jim Rome suggested that Kenyans should either "be forced to wear 50lb packs," or "run 30M while the Americans just run 26."…

In the November election, the Utah House of Representatives added a new member in 33-year-old Chad Bennion, who U.S.-ranked No. 8 in the marathon in '92 …

After a 12-year hiatus, the San Diego Indoor will return on January 23. A prominent fixture on the circuit for two decades ending in '87, the meet has no title sponsor yet, but father-son promotion team Don and Al Franken have brought in the San Diego Sports Arena as a risk-sharing partner…

Oslo's famed Bislett Stadium has been slated for demolition and rebuilding from the ground up in the next two years. Gone will be Bislett's cramped 6-lane feel, but neither athletes in lane races nor fans are likely to complain about that…

Banned sprinter Ben Johnson had such success in a recent charity event where he raced a car and a horse (beating the machine but not the beast) that his agent, Maurice Chrobotek, says he may continue his series against nonhuman opponents. Saying, "Ben is not a circus," Chrobotek dismissed a network TV proposal for a race against a cheetah.

• • •

HELP YOUR LIBRARY! As noted in last month's issue, we've got two dozen copies of *World Record Breakers In Track & Field Athletics* that a generous reader has donated for placement in school/college libraries.

Just send a note, 50 words or less, to Ed Fox explaining why your institution deserves one of the copies. Fax at 650/948-9445 or e at ef@trackandfieldnews.com…

USATF has formed a committee to make recommendations on the creation of industry standards for vault equipment.

Those interested in joining the committee, or providing comment or information, should contact Eddie Seese by fax (707/645-8555) or e-mail (<prsport1@aol.com>).

The idea of using blood tests to detect illegal usage of EPO and HGH remains controversial. At a conference on drugs in sport recently, British expert David Cowan asserted, "By 2000, unless we are testing with blood, we haven't got a chance."

However, the USOC's director of drug control, Dr. Wade Exum, disagreed, saying, "Why spend millions of dollars opening up a whole new area of research when, in fact, that money could be used to perfect urinalysis?"…

Who says white men can't sprint? Australia's Matt Shirvington placed 4th in the Commonwealth Games 100 in 10.03. "Nobody more than me wanted to see Matt run 9.99," said winner Ato Boldon. "Then I can stop hearing questions about, you know, the white guy under 10 seconds."□



ALLSPORT/MIKE POWELL

REMEMBER WHEN? Merlene Ottey was a unanimous choice for women's AOY in '90. No one had had a perfect score since until Marion Jones this time around.

LANDMARKS

Died: Prominent coaches Larry Ellis, 70, and Stan Wright, 78 (see p. 49). Ellis died on November 4, in Skillman, New Jersey. He had undergone heart transplant surgery in '95. Wright died of kidney failure on November 7, in Houston.

Died: Beth Bonner, 46; when struck by a truck while cycling; on October 9, in Kerrville, Texas. Inaugural winner of the USATF 3000 title in '70, she set a marathon WR 3:01:42 in May of '71.

Died: Noel Carroll, 57; of a heart attack; on October 23, in Dublin, Ireland. Anchor, with a 1:46.9 split, of a Villanova 4x880y squad that set a World Record 7:19.0 in '64. He won three successive European Indoor titles for his native Ireland, 1966–68.

Died: Giuseppe Dordoni, 72; on October 24, in Piacenza, Italy. The Italian walker won gold in the '52 Olympic 50K.

LAST LAP

Flojo Had A Seizure

Florence Griffith Joyner's death (*T&FN*, December) was due to suffocation following an epileptic seizure, officials reported in late October after an autopsy on the Olympic sprint champion. "In layman's terms, she suffocated," said Dr. Richard Fukumoto, chief of forensics at the Orange County Coroner's office.

The autopsy revealed that Griffith Joyner had a congenital brain abnormality known as a "cavernous angioma," a condition estimated to be present in about 25% of the population. The condition allows blood to accumulate outside normal blood vessels in the brain or spinal tissue.

"The abnormality never has been associated with steroids or any other drugs," Fukumoto said. Other officials said Griffith Joyner's heart appeared to be normal.

Officials also concluded Flojo had been sleeping on her stomach and the seizure may have caused her limbs to stiffen and turn her head to the right, where her breathing was constricted by covers and pillows.

USOC President William Hybl said in a statement, "We now hope that this great Olympic champion, wife and mother can rest in peace, and that her millions of admirers around the world will celebrate her legacy to sport and children every day."

4 Into Hall Of Fame

Distance runner Francie Larrieu Smith joins three men—Greg Foster, Jay Silvester and Dwight Stones—as the newest selections to be voted into the National Track & Field Hall of Fame.

Larrieu Smith was a member of five U.S. Olympic teams ('72-'92) at distances ranging from the 1500 to the marathon. She was elected U.S. flagbearer for the Barcelona opening ceremonies.

High hurdler Foster won three consecutive world outdoor titles ('83, '87, '91), the '91 World Indoor crown and the '84 Olympic silver medal. He World Ranked each season 1977–92 save '88, rating No. 1 five times.

Discus thrower Silvester set four accepted WRs, had three other unratified marks and was the first to throw beyond 220- and 230-feet. He made four Olympic teams ('64-'76) and won the '72 silver medal.

High jumper Stones elevated the outdoor global best three times, won bronze medals at the '72 and '76 Olympics and placed 4th in '84. He World Ranked 11 times and was No. 1 from '73 through '76.

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STAT CORNER

Previous Athlete Of The Year Choices

T&FN has been choosing an Athlete Of The Year on the men's side since '59, and among the women since '74. In general, the men have been dominated by distance runners, the women by sprinters.

The all-time choices, with the event(s) in which they ranked that year:

Men

1959 ..... Martin Lauer (W Germany) 110H/decathlon

1960 ..... Rafer Johnson (US) decathlon
1961 ..... Ralph Boston (US) long jump/110H
1962 ..... Peter Snell (New Zealand) 800/1500
1963 ..... C.K. Yang (Taiwan) decathlon/pole vault
1964 ..... Peter Snell (New Zealand) 800/1500
1965 ..... Ron Clarke (Australia) 5000/10,000
1966 ..... Jim Ryun (US) 800/1500
1967 ..... Jim Ryun (US) 1500
1968 ..... Bob Beamon (US) long jump
1969 ..... Bill Toomey (US) decathlon

1970 ..... Randy Matson (US) shot put
1971 ..... Rod Milburn (US) 110H
1972 ..... Lasse Viren (Finland) 5000/10,000
1973 ..... Ben Jipcho (Kenya) 1500/steeple/5000
1974 ..... Rick Wohlhuter (US) 800/1500
1975 ..... John Walker (New Zealand) 800/1500
1976 ..... Alberto Juantorena (Cuba) 400/800
1977 ..... Alberto Juantorena (Cuba) 400/800
1978 ..... Henry Rono (Kenya) steeple/5000/10,000
1979 ..... Sebastian Coe (Great Britain) 800/1500

1980 ..... Edwin Moses (US) 400H
1981 ..... Sebastian Coe (Great Britain) 800/1500
1982 ..... Carl Lewis (US) 100/200/long jump
1983 ..... Carl Lewis (US) 100/200/long jump
1984 ..... Carl Lewis (US) 100/200/long jump
1985 ..... Saïd Aouita (Morocco) 1500/5000
1986 ..... Yuriy Syedikh (Soviet Union) hammer
1987 ..... *Ben Johnson (Canada) 100

*(*Johnson retroactively banned by IAAF for admitted drug use; No. 2 in the voting was Aouita.)*

1988 ..... Sergey Bubka (Soviet Union) pole vault
1989 ..... Roger Kingdom (US) 110H

1990 ..... Michael Johnson (US) 200/400
1991 ..... Sergey Bubka (Soviet Union) pole vault
1992 ..... Kevin Young (US) 400H
1993 ..... Noureddine Morceli (Algeria) 1500/3000
1994 ..... Noureddine Morceli (Algeria) 1500/3000/5000
1995 ..... Haile Gebrselassie (Ethiopia) 3000/5000/10,000
1996 ..... Michael Johnson (US) 200/400
1997 ..... Wilson Kipketer (Denmark) 800
1998 ..... Haile Gebrselassie (Ethiopia) 3000/5000/10,000

Women

1974 ..... Irena Szewinska (Poland) 100/200/400
1975 ..... Faina Melnik (Soviet Union) shot/discus
1976 ..... Tatyana Kazankina (Soviet Union) 800/1500
1977 ..... Rosemarie Ackermann (East Germany) high jump
1978 ..... Marita Koch (East Germany) 100/200/400
1979 ..... Marita Koch (East Germany) 100/200/400

1980 ..... Ilona Briesenick (East Germany) shot
1981 ..... Evelyn Ashford (US) 100/200
1982 ..... Marita Koch (East Germany) 100/200/400
1983 ..... Jarmila Kratochvílová (Czechoslovakia) 200/400/800
1984 ..... Evelyn Ashford (US) 100
1985 ..... Marita Koch (East Germany) 100/200/400
1986 ..... Jackie Joyner-Kersee (US) LJ/heptathlon
1987 ..... Jackie Joyner-Kersee (US) 100H/LJ/heptathlon
1988 ..... Florence Griffith Joyner (US) 100/200
1989 ..... Ana Quirot (Cuba) 400/800

1990 ..... Merlene Ottey (Jamaica) 100/200
1991 ..... Heike Henkel (Germany) high jump
1992 ..... Heike Drechsler (Germany) long jump
1993 ..... Wang Junxia (China) 1500/3000/10,000/marathon
1994 ..... Jackie Joyner-Kersee (US) 100H/long jump/hept
1995 ..... Sonia O'Sullivan (Ireland) 1500/3000/5000
1996 ..... Svetlana Masterkova (Russia) 800/1500
1997 ..... Marion Jones (US) 100/200
1998 ..... Marion Jones (US) 100/200/long jump

Awesome Reaction Times

On the surface, one of the most surprising results at the World Cup in Johannesburg (*T&FN*, December) was Falk Balzer's 13.10–13.11 hurdle win over Colin Jackson in "PR" time.

But the figures kicked out by the pressure-sensitive blocks confirmed what everybody in the stands saw right away: with a reaction time of 0.019, the German clearly had a false start that should have been called back. So did Aussie Rod Zuyderwyk (0.031) in the adjacent lane.

Two days earlier, a "PR" of 10.03 by Dwain Chambers in the 100 was made with a reaction time of 0.063.

In both cases the blocks, as per IAAF rule 162.10, were set to send a signal to the starter for any reaction faster than 0.10, but he apparently chose to ignore the signal.

In the case of the hurdles, both the British and American teams lodged a formal protest, but the Jury of Appeal rejected the protest, citing rule 123.1, which makes the starter the "sole judge" of what happens at the line.

Obviously, the two rules need to be brought more into line (see *We Think*, p. 60).

Following long-standing *T&FN* procedure, we will carry none of these marks as legal on our lists. Bob Sparks, president of the Association of Track & Field Statisticians (ATFS), says, "I firmly maintain that we should recognize the IAAF's own standard by excluding the three marks concerned."

An Estonian Tragedy

Our coverage of the European Championships in the November issue said Erki Nool's win in the decathlon was the first by

an Estonian in 60 years. It must be remembered, points out reader Kenneth Gorshkow of Seattle, that from 1940 to 1991 Estonia was annexed to the Soviet Union and "security" considerations curtailed the opportunities of its athletes.

Most notable is the fate of Heino Lipp, the first man ever to score in the *T&FN* World Rankings in both the shot and discus (see p. 25). Despite the hardships of the Soviet occupation, Lipp had his best year in 1948. Not only did he rank No. 5 in both the shot and discus, but a few days after Bob Mathias scored 7139 points to win the Olympic title, he totaled a huge 7584 and earned No. 1 in the Rankings in that event. By the time of '52 Olympics Lipp was 31, but he would still have been a strong contender for at least a lesser decathlon medal. However, he had been classified "permanently unreliable" by the KGB.

"After Estonia regained its independence in 1991, I recall a most memorable visit to Heino Lipp and his wife in Tallinn," says Gorshkow. "Heino had received the book *Olympic Glory Denied* by Frank Zarnowski. With the author's kind permission I translated Heino's chapter into Estonian for him, and I found it to be an excellent book, making it hard to keep back tears. Heino also showed me a letter wherein Mathias expressed his regret that they did not get a chance to compete together at the Olympics."

Mortensen Out Of Running

Kim Mortensen was our High School Athlete Of The Year in '96, but after a solid early cross country season as a UCLA frosh she ran a fatigued 27th in the district race and didn't make the NCAA. A hamstring strain held her back, but her body was already telling Mortensen what she hadn't yet faced: anorexia.

The eating disorder ultimately caused Mortensen's weight to drop to just 87lb on her 5-3 frame. She redshirted the past two track seasons and now has stopped running competitively.

But she is dealing with her problem, which she dates back to the summer of '95. "It was all about control," she told John Ortéga of the *Los Angeles Times*. "I felt if I could be disciplined in all areas of my life [including eating], I could be disciplined on the track."

A stress fracture in her back a year ago caused Mortensen to face her situation. I realized I had a problem before then," she said, "but the stress fracture showed me how much damage I was doing."

Shorter Statue Vandalized

Frank Shorter casts a long shadow in the annals of marathoning. Now a Colorado foundry has before it the task of recasting a shortened statue of the '72 Olympic champion.

A bronze likeness of Shorter on the University of Colorado campus was recently sawed off at the ankles by vandals. The perpetrators didn't succeed in their apparent theft attempt, and university officials, who found the statue toppled over on the ground, plan to reposition it in its proper running stride.

Shorter has resided in Boulder, where the university is located, for the last 25 years.

"We're working on getting the foundry that did the original work to collect the base and body and make the repairs as quickly as possible with a sensitivity to the artwork," said the school's assistant director of facilities management, John Bruning.

IAAF Cross Challenge

The '98–'99 IAAF Cross Challenge season is upon us, with a new twist. Six of the meets on the annual circuit that concludes with the World Cross Country Championships in March will count as actual Challenge races; the rest will be considered simply "Permit" competitions.

Although the IAAF has not fully listed which of the 11 meets scheduled shall constitute the upper tier of Challenge meets, it has announced that one will be in Africa (Mombasa, Kenya), one in Asia (Chiba, Japan) and four in Europe. The Challenge meets must meet criteria for total entries, geographical dispersion of national origin of entrants and minimum meet budget.

The World Championships will count double in the series, which awards men's and women's prize money from $25,000 for 1st down to $3000 for 6th.

The 1997–98 circuit:

December—19, Mombasa, Kenya; 20, Brussels, Belgium.

January—2, Durham, England; 10, Amorebieta, Spain; 17, Seville, Spain; 23, Belfast, Northern Ireland; 30, Tourcoing, France

February—7, Vilamoura, Portugal; 21, Chiba, Japan & Diekirch, Luxembourg

March—14, San Vittore Olona, Italy; 27–28, World Champs, Belfast. □

1998 U.S. XC Schedule

Note that USATF is staging two "nationals" this season. The December version is for association teams. The February one will have scoring for the big sponsored teams and choose the individuals for the World Championships.

Collegiate Champs

November

14 ..... JUCO, Overland Park, Kansas
21 ..... NAIA, Kenosha, Wisconsin
..... NCAA III, Carlisle, Pennsylvania
23 ..... NCAA I & II, Lawrence, Kansas

Other Majors

November

28 ..... FootLocker HS Midwest, Kenosha, Wisconsin
..... FootLocker HS Northeast, New York, New York
..... FootLocker HS South, Charlotte, North Carolina

December

5 ..... FootLocker HS West, Walnut, California
..... AAU Age-Group, Knoxville, Tennessee
6 ..... USA Champs, Orlando, Florida
12 ..... FootLocker Chmps, Orlando, Florida
..... USATF Junior Olympics, Lisle, Illinois

February '99

13-14 ..... USATF Ch, Tacoma, Wash



LETTERS

SHORT ATTENTION SPAN

ONCE AGAIN I open my *T&F News* to an editorial whining about how the media doesn't pay enough attention to the sport, and we don't know what to do about it. As my junior high daughter would say, "Duh!"

I haven't written since Craig took over, but I'll write again. Somewhere, somebody—in *T&F News* or maybe in USATF—has their heads so far up their asses that they refuse to listen, but I'll give it one more shot. The reasons the media does not follow this sport are so obvious it is unbelievable…

In the name of all things sacred, cut out every race on TV over a mile. I know Masback is a distance runner. But as long as I have a TV remote in my hand, I'm going to use it. If every damn time I flip to the track meet, I see people jogging round and round and round, I will be bored out of my mind. First, the 5000. Then the 10,000. Oooooh, now the women's 5000.

Can you not get it that viewers with short attention spans need short bursts of effort? Like what? Like sprints and field events, for the love of Dwight Stones!

How moronic to show endless distance races, and then show one single jump in the high jump to represent the whole event?

Brian Stucky—Goessel, Kansas

ANOTHER SAD PASSING

I WAS SHOCKED and saddened to learn of the recent passing of Sheila Tarr. Most people's lasting memories of the '88 Olympic Trials were of Florence Griffith Joyner blazing her 10.49 or of Carl Lewis and Larry Myricks swapping 28-foot long jumps in a driving rainstorm.

But for me, there is another, that of a young heptathlete laying exhausted on the grass in the middle of the IUPUI infield, long after the competition had ended, not another person within 40y of her, trying to come to terms with her failure to earn a spot on the Olympic team. She laid there, not moving, for a full 15 minutes.

I can't say I knew her. I never even met her. But the memory of her on that day 10 years ago is still vivid in my mind. It is a manifestation of why we participate and follow sports the way we do. That image was the embodiment of years of dedication, hard work, sweat, sacrifice and agony, all put forth in the pursuit of personal goals and satisfaction without—and here's the kicker—without any assurances or guarantees of ever attaining those goals.

We run, we stumble, fall, get up and persevere. The success lies in the struggle.

Steve Osterfeld—Cincinnati, Ohio

THE HSI GENTLEMEN

I AM WRITING in response to some of the recent letters criticizing the sprinters in the HSI sprint group (Greene, Boldon, Drummond, et al), coached by John Smith. I am a high school sprint coach who visited HSI twice this summer. I found them all to be fine gentlemen, who were not arrogant, but polite and friendly.

It is a thrill to do well in the sprint events, and the better the competition, the greater the thrill. We should not be too harsh in criticizing youthful high spirits. I do not think coach Smith would mind if I gave you their "secret": lift hard, eat right, and train smart.

I wish the HSI sprinters continued success, gold medals, and World Records.

Peter Zepfler—Imperial Beach, CA

THE HSI KIDS

I THINK Maurice Greene, Ato Boldon and Jon Drummond need to step down for a while. Throughout the year, they have paraded around like kids arguing about who is the "Fastest Man."

They have made continuous announcements and predictions about breaking Donovan Bailey's 9.84 and have continued to show disgraceful behavior to track fans. Especially the American 4x1 team at the Goodwill Games. Greene and Drummond paraded around like adolescents. As far as I'm concerned, they haven't equaled Donovan Bailey's status and certainly not Michael Johnson's.

Sure, they all have run fast but I think they should stop their arrogance and shows at the meets and just concentrate on winning their races and showing better role models and sportsmanship to American fans. When we're talking in terms of the World's Fastest Man, I think the title definitely goes to Michael Johnson.

Chris Santamaria—Rochester, Minnesota

THE SPORT'S ALI

I WAS THOROUGHLY disappointed by the lack of TV coverage this past summer for the sport about which I'm passionate.

Some of the things that might allow for bigger audiences are to cover the meet as it has been performed on the track and stop the incessant nonsensical, breathless interviews. You don't interview a football player right after a touchdown, nor do you interview a tennis player after an ace, so there is no reason to interview a runner 2–3 minutes after he or she has completed a race.

It is nice to learn of their personalities but lets do it in pre interviews or post interviews. Knowing Jon Drummond, I can't get enough of him. He is a wonderful character, kind of Muhammad Ali-ish in his bragging. It's good for the sport. The sport needs all the attention it can get.

Claire Mack—San Mateo, California

WHO'S FASTEST?

MAURICE GREENE, Jon Drummond, Ato Boldon, Donovan Bailey and Frank Fredericks will think they are the fastest man in the world.

People are saying that Bailey's 9.84 was the fastest with its 1.4 tailwind. Others say Boldon's 9.86 had little wind and should scientifically be the World Record. Scientists have certain mathematical problems which can break down the effect of wind.

Some still think Greene's 9.79 was the fast-

WE THINK

Starter Controls Needed

While we always hate to disagree with judgments made by on-field officials, who are typically overworked and underpaid, *T&FN* has long had a policy whereby we will exclude marks from our lists that are "obviously" wrong.

One area where we have taken a firm position on this is in the realm of uncalled false starts. Quite simply, if a meet is run with reaction-sensing blocks and somebody gets away under the accepted limit of 0.10, we call the mark a "rolling start." Unfortunately, this situation cropped up again at the recent World Cup (see p. 58).

Two notable earlier athletes affected by our procedure are Dennis Mitchell, who won bronze in the '91 World Champs 100, and Mark McKoy, who won the World Indoor 60H gold in '95. In each case, they were simply out too fast (Mitchell 0.090, McKoy 0.053), and we didn't count the marks they made there.

In Mitchell's case, the starter admitted he wasn't hooked up to the headset which gave the false-start notification. After the McKoy incident the IAAF rewrote its rule to remove the starter's option to use his judgment upon hearing the signal. Just why the South African starter didn't fire the recall gun remains unclear.

We think that the IAAF needs to clarify its rules, since rule 162.10 mandated a callback in South Africa, yet the jury denied an appeal on that basis, citing the starter's rights under rule 123.1. Given the state of modern technology, it should be easy enough for the blocks themselves to signal a recall when the time-constraint period is violated.

Furthermore, given that such blatant flyers have gone uncalled in three of its showcase meets, we think that the IAAF needs to forgo the nicety of allowing the host country to fill such an important position.

The IAAF has been increasing its presence on the infield for years, adding more and more oversight personnel on the technical side. Making the step to ensure that the starter is fully trained and competent, and beholden to the IAAF itself, is the next logical move.

est even though he had a monster tailwind.

Let's not fool ourselves. We all know that the wind can affect a 100m dash time. How about this. Let's just send them all down to the Super Dome in New Orleans. There can't be any bickering over wind or distractions. Lay down a 100m straightway. Give all of them 3 sprints in 3 days and lets watch the world's 100m dash record go down.

Paul Stephens—Shreveport, Louisiana

*(**Ed:** One thing we think we can guarantee you is that Bailey's 9.84 is not likely to be surpassed at sea level with zero wind for a long-long time.)*

CRYSTAL BALL DEPARTMENT

CALL ME NOSTRADAMUS, if you must, but I have a prediction. In light of the recent distance revolution in the 5000 and 10,000 and the marathon World Record in Berlin (n.b. the stunning 1:01:23 last half), not to mention the veritable plethora of sub-2:08 guys sauntering around the marathon scene, I have a thought.

Hold on tight: The marathon will go sub-2:00 by 2008. And while I'm being brazen with my crystal ball I'll add some specifics: 1)He will be of Kenyan descent. 2)He will be under 23 years old. 3)He will have training weeks in excess of 250M.

So you think I'm crazy?

Well, all you doubters listen well: If I am wrong... you will have long forgotten this letter by the year 2008, allowing me to avoid any embarrassment for this asinine prediction.

John Liccardo—Salt Lake City, Utah

PREP STANDARDS DROPPING

PERHAPS BEING from the "old school" of running, '70s and '80s, and seeing the recent spate of Pre movies has inspired me to write. As I am a long time runner and reader of the "Bible Of The Sport," I couldn't' help but notice the 1998 high school times for the 3200m.

These are nevertheless fine prep times, and would have been for any school boy during the past 30 years or so; however, one couldn't help but notice that the top prep times when converted to 2M (that's the standard many of us old timers still use!) would hardly crack 9:00!

We should not ignore this fact, as there may be something amiss in the prep world of distance running that perhaps is parallel to what we have witnessed in U.S. distance running and marathoning in general during the last decade or so.

Back in the '70s and early '80s, not only did the best preps crack 9:00 and 8:50 with astonishing regularity, but also more than a few accomplished this feat while doubling in the mile run.

Is this just a sign of the times, wherein work ethic in every sport almost always seems to play second fiddle to recognition and high profile? Or is this just a reflection of today's top prep distance talent?

John Butler III—via e-mail

*(**Ed:** While there's certainly something to the "sign of the times" argument, don't forget how high school enrollments have dropped.)*

SANDVIK JAVELINS

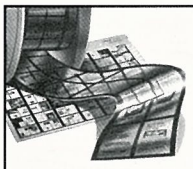
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Next Month In T&FN

NCAA Cross



PATRICK COLLARD

HEAD-TO-HEAD battles galore are in store at the NCAA Cross Championships. Can Carrie Tollefson (l) again upset favored Amy Skieresz for the women's individual title? Will the best women's team be BYU or Stanford?

On the men's side, will Adam Goucher and Bernard Lagat be swept aside by someone else? Can Stanford hold off Arkansas again?

The answer to all these harrier questions, and more, in the February edition of *Track & Field News*.

But that's not all! The next issue of your favorite track & field magazine will also have a guide to the coming undercover campaign and all the hot political goings-on from the USATF Convention. The deep world and U.S. lists for '98 will be in the March issue.

The over-hill-over-dale February edition will be mailed by January 1. If you aren't currently a subscriber, just call us at our toll-free 800 number and we'll take care of your order promptly. A regular 1-year U.S. subscription is still only $34.95; other rates are available on request.

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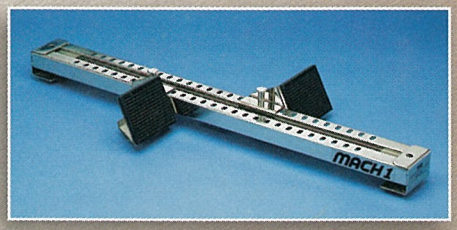
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