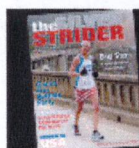




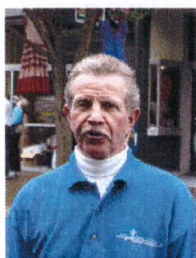
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1994 – World Masters Games

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by Greg Chapman

In September of 1994, 23,000 athletes converged in Brisbane, Australia for the World Masters Games. At that time, this was a larger event than the Olympics.

I had been to Australia in 1987 for the Veteran Games. It was a great experience. I loved it and wanted to go back.

The opportunity to return came a few years later. I was on a triathlon team with two good friends. We heard a team triathlon would be held at the World Masters Games in '94 and that was all the motivation I needed.

My teammates were Steve Martin, an accomplished cyclist and Frank Warner, a world class swimmer. Our team entered numerous events getting ready for Brisbane.

The games were to take place over a two week period. We planned to stay a week prior to the games and a week after, competing in several events and doing some touring.

It was a 14 hour plane ride to Brisbane. I had learned the importance of staying hydrated from my previous experience traveling to Australia. The first time I failed to drink enough and arrived jet lagged. This time I made sure I drank every 2 hours and it made a huge difference in my condition when we landed.

The city of Brisbane was beautiful. The people were welcoming and friendly. If you took out a map to check on a location, you would be surrounded by people asking: "Can I help you, mate".

I had packed carefully for the trip. A friend had designed and made shorts for our team – "Team USA". I brought my Snohomish jersey and 4 pairs of shoes for different running events.

I was 46 years old, competing in the 45-49 age group. There were 33 events over the two week period and I planned on running in five of them.

I finished 14th out of 86 runners in the cross country 10k, 8th overall out of 40 runners in the 5k with a time of 17:31, 7th out of 12 in the steeplechase, and 8th in my age division in the half marathon with a time of 1:25:08.



The team triathlon was held on October 8th. This was the event I had been waiting for. Twelve hundred athletes were competing. There were 86 teams. Frank had to swim .8 mile, Steve had to bike 18 miles, and I had to run 5 miles. Our team was there to have fun but we were serious. We had come to compete.

It was a very hot day. The temperature was in the 80's. The swim began in the river. The current was so strong that a dock had to be brought in to keep swimmers from being swept away. Frank was in 8th place out of the water.

Steve was 7th off the bike. The officials had a rule that you had to rack the bike and make the tag. I wore a pink hat so that Steve would be able to see me. Steve racked the bike, made the tag, and I took off. I ran a few steps and was called back twice by an official who faulted the tag.

The course was 2 loops. Because it was so hot, they had water and sponges every kilometer. I had a really good run, finishing in 31:04-the fastest time on the course.

Team USA took the silver medal. We finished 2nd in our age group and 2nd overall. The gold medal went to the local team. We became great friends with the winning team. 66 countries were represented. There was a lot of swapping T-shirts and swapping stories.

The night before we left, I commented on how amazing it was that everything had gone so well. No mishaps. Steve jumped up and yelled. "Are you trying to jinx us?"

The following day, my wife and Steve took a bus to the airport. I was following in the rental car. I missed a light but went on to the airport.

I returned the rental car and with only an hour before our flight was to leave, I searched for Steve and my wife. They were nowhere to be found. She was carrying my passport and my wallet.

Finally 15 minutes before flight time, I found out I was at the wrong airport. I jumped into a taxi and told the driver I had a flight leaving in 10 minutes from an airport that was 15 minutes away.

He drove like a maniac, stopping on the sidewalk at the terminal entrance. I grabbed every bit of cash I had in my pocket, dumped it on the seat and ran.

My wife was waiting at the door. We ran through the airport, bypassing customs, to the plane. It had been held 5 minutes, awaiting our arrival.

When I boarded the plane, Steve greeted me with a grin. "See, I warned you not to jinx us!"



NATIONAL MASTERS

The official world and U.S. publication for Masters track & field, long distance running

242nd Issue

October 1998

1403 Compete in Track & Field In Oregon

Nike World Masters Games Draw 11,000

The good news is that more than 11,000 athletes – including 1403 in track and field – participated in the

fourth Nike World Masters Games in Oregon, August 9-22.

The bad news is that only 11,000

athletes – including only 1403 in track and field – took part in the quadrennial event.

This dichotomy, espoused by people who saw the same event in different lights, is that the final numbers, despite being substantial, fell far short of the original estimates of 25,000 total and 4000 T&F athletes. As a result, some reviewers called them “disappointing.”

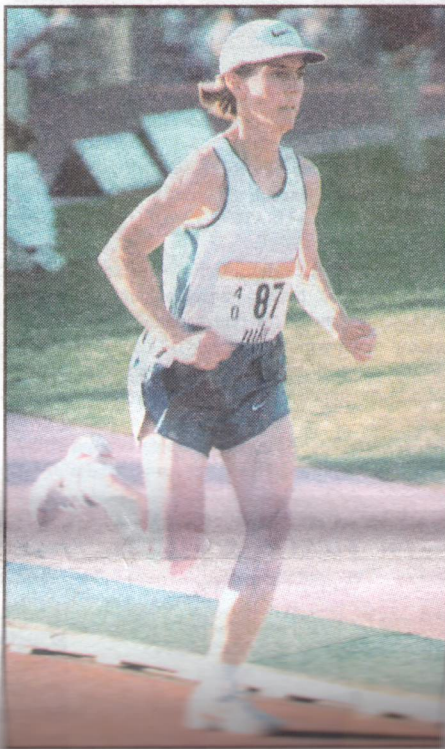
Nevertheless, the magnitude of the Games was impressive. More than 100 nations were represented. It was the largest gathering of masters athletes ever assembled in the USA, surpassing the 8000 who came to Tucson, Ariz., in 1997 for the National Senior Sports Classic.

With 1403 entries in the T&F competition, it was the biggest masters meet held in the U.S. this year, out-drawing the 1061 who came to Orono, Maine, for the U.S. Nationals.

The Games consisted of 25 sports for masters athletes – generally age-30-and-up, depending on the sport. The Games are held every four years under the auspices of the International Masters Games Association (IMGA). This year they were staged by the Portland Sports Authority, a group formed to attract master athletes to



Medalists in the W40 1500 (l to r): Julie James, of Oregon, first (5:18.57); Betty Seft, of Oregon, second (5:25.30); and Joy Cordell, of Washington, third (5:25.37).



Joan Benoit-Samuelson, of Maine, gold medalist in the marathon in the Los Angeles Olympics, won the W40 1500 (17:02.04), Nike World Masters Games, Eugene, Ore.

Anderson, Pozdnyakova Top Masters at Crim

Young, Wysocki, Utes Win Indy Points

by JANNA WALKUP

Indy Life Circuit competition heated up at the Crim Festival of Races 10 Mile in Flint, Mich., on Aug. 22. With the race serving as both an Indy Life Circuit event and the USATF masters 10 mile championships, Craig Young and Ruth Wysocki blazed to USA masters titles under warm, humid conditions. England's Keith Anderson and Ukraine's Tatyana Pozdnyakova defended their Crim masters titles, but were ineligible for the USA masters

time was 50:33. “I just couldn't go with Keith.”

While Young couldn't go with Anderson, no other American could stay with Young. Second place finisher Charlie Gray, 44, Lee's Summit, Mo., finished nearly three minutes behind in 53:20. Gary Romesser, 47, Indianapolis, Ind., placed third in 54:35.

Wysocki, 41, finished in 57:21 to set a U.S. single age record and moved into first place in the Indy Life stand-





Pagliano's Podiatric Pointers

The Foot Beat

by JOHN W. PAGLIANO
D.P.M.

Dr. Pagliano's column will resume next month.

Nike World Games

Continued from page 1

Portland through sporting events.

Most of the events were held in Portland, with the T&F competition at Hayward Field in Eugene.

Best Meet Ever

The Eugene meet was arguably the best-organized masters T&F meet ever held. Led by experienced masters meet directors Tom Jordan and Barbara Kousky, the meet was virtually flawless. Athletes could read their times on the scoreboard within seconds after they crossed the finish line. The event ran on schedule. The paper flow was superb. The awards ceremonies went smoothly. The medals were beautiful – the biggest ever seen at a masters meet.

There were no lap-counting errors. At the Friday night barbecue, the food and the camaraderie were plentiful. The free shuttle bus system was frequent and on time, the only downside being that fewer athletes rode the buses due to the less-than-expected

a shot put of 10 feet, 1¼ inches, which automatically became a new world record for age 100+. He became an instant celebrity. Two nights later on the Jay Leno Tonight Show on NBC, he reportedly improved his throw by two feet.

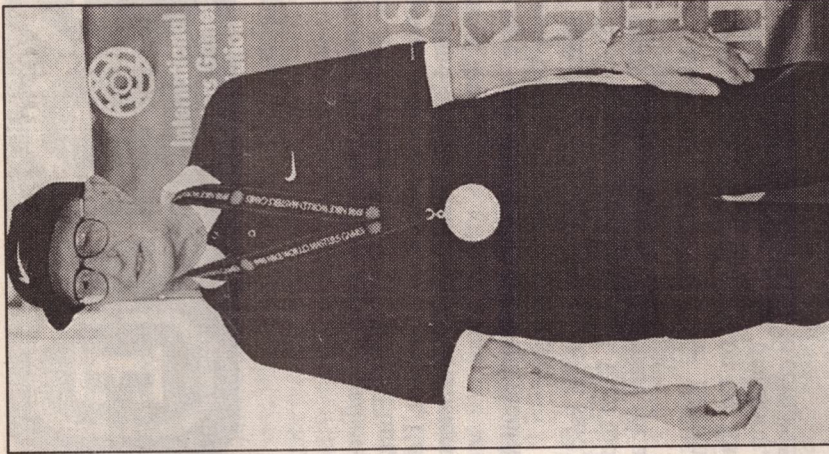
Making their masters track & field debuts were former Olympians Ron Laird, Dick Fosbury, Lee Evans and Joan Benoit-Samuelson.

In many events, the competition was at a world-class level. Eleven world and 13 U.S. records were established in the 12-day festival (see separate competition story on page 9).

Games Nearly Cancelled

With about 10,000 family members and friends included, the Games had an economic impact on the state of Oregon of about \$21 million, according to standard economic estimates.

And yet the *Portland Oregonian* headlined: "Athletes and Sponsors Disappointed in Games; Nike Gets Blame for Event Failure."



SUZY HESS
Ben Levinson, 103, of California, the oldest athlete ever to record a world age-group record, with a 10-1¼ shot put, Nike World Masters Games, Eugene, Ore.

off the budgeted amount.

In a way, it was an amazing breakthrough. Never before had that much corporate sponsorship been drawn to an event with "masters" in its title.

The National Senior Sports Classic, using the magic name "Senior Olympics," has been successful in attracting corporate sponsorship, but many marketing people have long felt that the term "masters" was unsellable.

The Portland event proved that selling "masters" may be difficult, but not

Was \$200 Entry Fee Justified?

Was the \$200 entry fee at the Nike Masters Games justifiable?

"Yes, definitely, when compared with the entry costs of a WAVA Championship," said Barbara Kousky and Tom Jordan, co-commissioners of the track and field competition at the Games.

Replying to criticism of the fee, they said:

"Let's take a real person as an example in the World Masters Games. This person entered a total of six events (he could have entered even more for his \$200). Those six events at the WAVA Championships in Gateshead next year will cost him 80 pounds, or \$130.88 (\$1.630 exchange rate). In addition, if he wants to attend the athletes' party, it will cost \$37.62. A program will cost \$8.18, a results booklet will cost \$16.36, for a total of \$193.04. (All of these items were included in the \$200 NWMG fee.)

"And this \$193.04 WAVA cost does not include the other items which were included in the NWMG \$200 fee, such as free massage, chiropractic, sports bag, t-shirt, unlimited fresh fruit daily, and technique clinics, among others. The clinics alone, featuring Mac Wilkins, Willie Davenport, Joan Benoit-Samuelson, Dick Fosbury, et al, were worth the

the scoreboard within seconds after they crossed the finish line. The event ran on schedule. The paper flow was superb. The awards ceremonies went smoothly. The medals were beautiful – the biggest ever seen at a masters meet.

There were no lap-counting errors. At the Friday night barbecue, the food and the camaraderie were plentiful. The free shuttle bus system was frequent and on time, the only downside being that fewer athletes rode the buses due to the less-than-expected entries.

All three local television stations had film at 6 and 11. The *Eugene Register-Guard* ran daily stories and results. The officials were outstanding, courteous, professional, and numerous. The dormitory accommodations were excellent and the cafeteria food was above average. Numerous volunteers helped out.

"I'd never heard of this place," said Dace Brakanska, W40, of Latvia. "Now I know it's the best place for track and field in America."

"If this event had been anywhere else, I probably would not have gone," said Terry Pliner, M60, of Green Bay, Wisc. "Whether you're an open athlete or master, this is the ultimate place to compete."

Of the 1403 T&F entries from 51 countries, 891 (63%) were from the USA.

Track and field competition was held in 5-year age groups for men and women, beginning at age 30. Medals were awarded to the first three placers in each event.

Oldest Athlete Ever

For the first time ever in masters competition, an athlete over age 100 showed up. Ben Levinson 103, of Los Angeles, delighted the crowd and audiences with some clever quips and

was at a world-class level. Eleven world and 13 U.S. records were established in the 12-day festival (see separate competition story on page 9).

Games Nearly Cancelled

With about 10,000 family members and friends included, the Games had an economic impact on the state of Oregon of about \$21 million, according to standard economic estimates.

And yet the *Portland Oregonian* headlined: "Athletes and Sponsors Disappointed in Games; Nike Gets Blame for Event Failure."

The paper reported the Games will finish with an operating loss of \$500,000.

"Although disappointing," the story said, "the shortfall is a relatively modest sum for an organization that, for months, danced on the edge of a financial precipice."

"The low point came in March when, according to three World Masters Games Board members, the event's primary lender, U.S. Bancorp, demanded the organization repay its three-months' overdue loan, reportedly between \$800,000 and \$1 million. The bank could have pulled the plug, but . . . was persuaded by financial heavy-hitters to ease off."

Organizers plan to narrow the budget deficit by selling office furniture and other assets as well as laying off most Games staffers early.

"A \$500,000 loss is nothing for an event of this size," said Kousky. "Portland made some wrong assumptions and costly mistakes, but they were still able to pull it off. No one else could have gotten all the sponsors they did."

\$5 Million in Sponsorships

Indeed, the Games attracted 18 "world sponsors." Of the total budget of \$12 million, sponsors' cash contributions approached \$5 million, not far

off the budgeted amount.

In a way, it was an amazing breakthrough. Never before had that much corporate sponsorship been drawn to an event with "masters" in its title.

The National Senior Sports Classic, using the magic name "Senior Olympics," has been successful in attracting corporate sponsorship, but many marketing people have long felt that the term "masters" was unsellable.

The Portland event proved that selling "masters" may be difficult, but not impossible.

\$200 Entry Fee

Almost everyone agreed the fall-off of projected entries was due to the high entry fee of \$200 per athlete.

"You don't see very many people from the ghetto here, do you?" asked Hylke van der Wal, M60, of Canada.

"The biggest reason for the lack of participants is the entry fee," said Martha Mendenhall, W35, of Tacoma.

Doug Single, the Games' Chief Executive Officer, admitted the fee was too high in some sports, but "nobody cared in badminton."

"The experience was as rich as the entry fee," said Doug Schneebeck of Albuquerque, N.M.

"The return was worth more than what we paid," agreed Chuck Sochor of Lincoln Lake, Mich.

(See comparative sidebar.)

The well-attended clinics at Hayward Field were held by Payton Jordan (sprints), John Thomas and Dick Fosbury (high jump), Ron Laird and Yue Ling Chen (racewalking), Mac Wilkins (discus), Joan Benoit-Samuelson (distance), Willie Davenport (hurdles), and Tom Petranoff (javelin).

National TV sports network ESPN ran two-and-a-half hours of the Games, featuring many of the 25 sports, including track and field.

items were included

NWMG fee.)

"And this \$193.04 WAVA cost does not include the other items which were included in the NWMG \$200 fee, such as free massage, chiropractic, sports bag, t-shirt, unlimited fresh fruit daily, and technique clinics, among others. The clinics alone, featuring Mac Wilkins, Willie Davenport, Joan Benoit-Samuelson, Dick Fosbury, et al, were worth the price of admission. The medals awarded were literally of Olympic quality."

"The difference, of course, is that athletes can choose not to buy the additional items at a WAVA Championships. For an athlete interested in only one event, and not interested in the normal extras athletes tend to purchase, it proved too expensive. And these folks by and large did not enter. But for a large majority of those who did enter, the cost was not out of line." □

Single said Games' organizers underestimated the money and marketing needed for a 25,000-person event, and he was disappointed that city and state governments didn't contribute more money.

He said organizers learned the Masters Games are an event for 10,000 to 15,000 people. (The first Games in Toronto in 1985 drew 4000; 8000 came to Denmark in 1989; and 24,000 attended the Brisbane Games in 1994.)

In 2002, the Masters Games will return to Australia – to Melbourne, site of the successful WAVA World Veterans Championships in 1987.

– Al Sheahan

11 World Records Set in World Masters Games

When track & field fans hear "Hayward Field," they envision an eight-lane oval swarming with world-class runners, forgetting that it may be one of the best venues for field events in the country, especially for throwers. The shot put, javelin, and discus are held in the center of the infield, a rarity at most sites, and the hammer area is a few steps away from the track.

No surprise then that of the 11 world and 13 U.S. pending records broken or set, 21 were in the field events, and 14 of those were in the throws. Three bests were set in the 2000 steeplechase, a new event with the 30-inch barriers.

Shot put records by older athletes don't gather much media coverage, but the one by Ben Levinson, of California, received national notice and earned him a spot on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. Levinson is 103 years old and the oldest individual ever to set a t&f world record, with a put of 10-1 $\frac{1}{4}$, which he reportedly surpassed before a national television audience on Leno's show after his performance at Hayward Field.

Other world record performers were also noteworthy for superior achievements. Canada's Debbie Brill, 45, topped the W45 world record of 5-3 for the high jump by over five inches to 5-8 $\frac{3}{4}$, which age grades to 100% and better than a 7-foot jump. Ed Lipscomb, 47, Oregon, increased the M45 pole vault world record from 15-7 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 16-0, an age-graded 100% and the equivalent of a vault in the 20-foot range. Dan Bulkley, 81, Oregon, ran a 97.2% 59.67 in the 3000, about eight seconds better than the M40 world record, and did a 95.6% 1:11 in the 800 for a U.S. record.

Many Rivermaster Club athletes from major competition for several

to Crombie (23.93, 95.1%) in the 200. Zdenka Musinska, 41, Czech Republic, won the 100 (12.28) and 200 (25.56) with 90% performances.

Earl Fee, Canada, competing at the top of his age-group at 69, topped all other age-graded performances in the 400 (61.62, 95.1%), 800 (2:19.48, 100%), and 1500 (5:05.35, 93.0%). Submaster Bill Bushnell, 33, California, broke the 4-minute barrier with a 3:59.38 in the 1500.

Robert McCusker, Connecticut, prevailed over a large M45 field of 23 in the 5000 with a 15:59.19. Joan Benoit-Samuelson, 41, Maine, winner of the first women's Olympic marathon in Los Angeles, won the 5000 in 71:03.34. John Roberts, 40, Florida, winner (15.10, 91.6%), and Stacey Price, 44, New Mexico, second (15.16, 94.7%), staged one of the most thrilling finishes of the entire meet in the M40 110H. Heidi Sause, 44, Oregon, posted the women's top hurdles performance with an 88.4% 12.75 in the 80H.

High jumper James Barrineau, 43, Virginia, finished with a 96.6% 6-8.

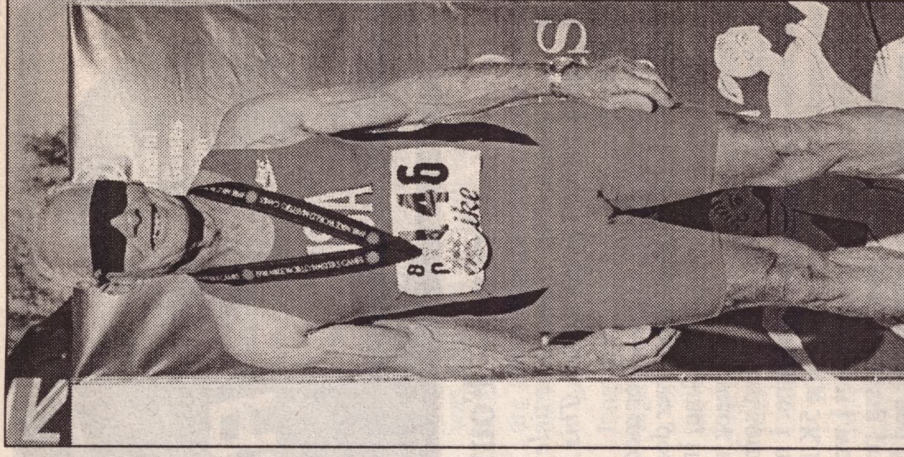
The most exciting match-up in the throws came from Joe Keshmiri, 60, Nevada, and Peter Speckens, 63, Germany, in the M60 shot and discus. Keshmiri struggled in his first shot attempts until he finally hit the 50-11 mark to outdistance Speckens by 3/4 of an inch. Speckens, however, took some consolation with an A-G 100% to Keshmiri's 94.8%. In the discus, Keshmiri won by less than two feet, with a 184-6, but again, Speckens (182-11) took A-G honors, 93.6% to 88.3%.

Tom Petrucci, 46, Rhode Island, broke the M40 U.S. javelin record again but with a lesser mark (243-11) than his 349-7 at the Nationals in



JERRY WOJCICK
Joe Greenberg, of California, hurled the javelin to a pending M46 world record 309-9, Nike World Masters Games, Eugene, Ore.

5000 (16:50.66), 8K cross-country (28:43), and 10K road race (35:33), and countryman Leonid Mossiev, 45, first in the M45 8K cross-country (26:59) and 10K road race (32:56). In the M55 20K race, Evqueni Kozlov, 59, Russia, posted an 89.3% 75:19, but had to settle for a silver medal behind Josef Podmolik, 55, Czech Republic, who ran



SUZY HESS
Dan Bulkley, of Oregon, included U.S. M80 pending records in the 80H (17:20) and 2000SC (11:30.76) among his gold medal performances, Nike World Masters Games.

an 86.7% 74:52.

In the women's distance races, Lai-Chu Winn Ng, 46, Hong Kong, was first in the 8K cross-country (31:32). Janet Jordan, 49, Oregon, led all age-graded performances in the 10K with an 84.1% 40:05. Barbara Brewer, 41, Great Britain, finished first in the 20K race with a 76:33. □ — Jerry Wojcik

Bulkley, 81, Oregon, ran a 97.2% 59.67 in the 300H, about eight seconds better than the M80 world record, and did a 92.1% 17.31 in the 80H for a U.S. record.

Mary Bowermaster, Ohio, absent from major competition for several years, returned with a flourish, scoring world W80 records in the high jump (2-11³/₄) and long jump (9-1¹/₂) and U.S. records in the shot (22-6¹/₄) and javelin (44-7). Lenore McDaniels, Virginia, continued to revise W70 records with three, finally overcoming the 6-10¹/₄ barrier in the pole vault with a 7-0.

Ladislav Filip, Eugene, Ore., who had the good fortune of joining the M70 ranks on Aug. 8, two days before the meet started, broke U.S. records in the discus (149-6) and hammer (151-6) and totalled a pending world best 4666 in the weight pentathlon. Hammer thrower Marilyn Senz, W35, North Carolina, added some four feet to her pending mark of 153-10 made in the 1998 Nationals, Orono, Me., with a 157-7.

Times on the track may not have produced a host of records, but there were some exceptional marks. In the 100, every men's age-division race but one was won with an age-graded, world-class 90% or better. Payton Jordan, 81, California, topped all performances with an A-G 99.7% 14.60. Vladimir Vyboštok, Slovakia, and Pete Crombie, Australia, waged eye-catching duels in the M50 100 and 200. Vyboštok, 51, took the 100 (11.80, A-G 94.1%) from the 53-year-old Crombie (11.92, 94.4%) but was second (24.59, 91.3%)

Keshmiri won by less than two feet, with a 184-6, but again, Speckens (182-11) took A-G honors, 93.6% to 88.3%. Tom Petranoff, 40, Rhode Island, broke the M40 U.S. javelin record again but with a lesser mark (243-11) than his 249-2 at the Nationals in Orono. Gertraud Schonauer, 61, Austria, stretched the W60 javelin world record to 130-11, an age-graded 96.2%.

Throwers from the former Eastern Bloc countries dominated the men's hammer, exemplified by M45 winner Florian Kulczynski, 48, Poland, who heaved the 16-lb. implement to a 92.6% 192-11.

The highest scorers in the pentathlon were Michael Janusey, 40, Pennsylvania, 3586, and Kathy Jager, 55, Arizona, 3262. Speckens saved some energy after his battles with Keshmiri to score the best total (4893) in the weight pentathlon. Joan Stratton, 46, Arizona, was the highest scorer among the women (3766).

Rich Friedlander, 54, Missouri, 24:30.86, 88.0%, and Lorna Thompson, 71, Australia, 34:17.95, 84.9%, were the best performers in the 5000 racewalk on the track. Bohdan Bulakowski, 48, Poland, 48:27, 87.2%, and Kelly Murphey-Glenn, 37, Idaho, 53:38, 80.4%, were the standouts in the 10K racewalk.

Just as they did in the hammer, Eastern European men garnered gold medals and notice in the distance races. among them were Alexander Tsoukanov, 54, Russia, winner of the M50

20K race, Evqueni Kozlov, 59, Russia, posted an 89.3% 75:19, but had to settle for a silver medal behind Josef Podmolik, 55, Czech Republic, who ran a race with a 76:33. □ — Jerry Wojcik

AGE GROUP RECORDS SET AT THE NIKE WORLD MASTERS GAMES EUGENE, OREGON; AUGUST 10-22

World Records

Event	Age	New Mark	Name	Old Mark	Held By
300mH	M80	59.67	Dan Bulkley	68.0	Karl Trei
HJ	W45	1.75	Debbie Brill	1.60	Phil Raschker
HJ	W70	1.20	Leonore McDaniels	1.16	Gwen Davidson
HJ	W80	0.90	Mary Bowermaster	0.89	Sheila Evans
PV	M45	4.88	Ed Lipscomb	4.76	Jerry Cash
PV	W70	2.16	Leonore McDaniels	1.62	Johnnye Valien
LJ	W80	2.78	Mary Bowermaster	2.26	Ruth Frith
SP	M100	3.08	Ben Levinson	---	---
JT	M45	63.95	Joe Greenberg	63.40	Mauri Toivonen
JT	W60	39.90	Gertraud Schonauer	36.64	Birute Kalediene
WP	M70	4666	Ladislav Filip	---	---

World Bests

2000mSC W65 12:49.39 Hideko Koshikawa (new event--30" barriers)

U.S. Records

100m	W70	16.15	Pat Peterson	16.2	Polly Clarke
80mH	M80	17.20	Dan Bulkley	17.31	Frank Finger
LJ	W70	3.41	Leonore McDaniels	3.28	Johnnye Valien
SP	W60	11.78	Joanne Grissom	10.21	Erika Messner
SP	W80	6.86	Mary Bowermaster	5.48	Edith Mendyka
DT	M70	45.59	Ladislav Filip	44.30	Ed Hooker
HT	M70	46.18	Ladislav Filip	46.00	Tom McDermott
HT	W35	48.05	Marilyn Senz	41.00	Sarah Boslaugh
HT	W40	41.97	Marci Mecklenberg	40.30	Joan Stratton
JT	M40	74.37	Tom Petranoff	60.98	Mike Brown
JT	M40	67.11	Jim Lothrop	60.98	Mike Brown
JT	W75	20.08	Adele McCormick	20.00	Edith Mendyka
JT	W80	13.59	Mary Bowermaster	12.34	Betty Jarvis

U.S. Bests

2000mSC M80	11:30.76	Dan Bulkley	(new event--30" barriers)
2000mSC W45	10:38.40	Ashley Summer	