

# Athletics World

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## WORLD REPORT

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### WOMEN

by  
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MEN  
by  
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1969 has proved the usual post-Olympic season, with few girls showing the form of a year ago. Nevertheless, there have been some interesting developments, particularly in the new international events, 1500 metres, 100 metres hurdles and 4x400 metres relay.

Fastest sprint mark to date is a wind-aided 11.1 by Jenny Lamy of Australia, with compatriot Kaye Thomas a tenth slower. The European best of 11.3 is shared by Irena Szewińska, Petra Vogt, Karin Balzer and Sylvie Telliez. The French girl has the top 200m clocking with 22.9w, followed by Szewińska on 23.0, Lamy and Wilma van den Berg 23.1. Olympic 400m champion Colette Besson has 23.4, and her early season performances suggested that she would prove difficult to beat in Athens. The French have a new star, however, in Nicole Duclos, who scored a close victory in the French champs, 52.8 for both. Kathy Hammond has resumed where injury forced her to lay off last year, producing 53.0 in the U.S.A./U.S.S.R./Commonwealth match, but Lillian Board has again had her development hampered by injury after a good start.

Ileana Silai was the early leader in the 800m with 2:03.2. Much interest was shown in the return of Vera Nikolić, but although well beaten by an impressive Pat Lowe and fast-finishing Ilja Keizer in the W.A.A.A. Champs., 2:03.3 and 2:03.5 to 2:04.2, she will doubtless prove a different proposition in Athens. Madeline Manning has not had much cause to run faster than 2:03.8, and is unfortunately missing from the American touring team.

Mia Gommers, third over 800m with 2:03.4, scored an early success by adding the 1 mile record to her 1500 m record, producing 4:36.8 on a windy day at Leicester. However, Italy's Paola Pigni promptly defeated Gommers and smashed her 1500m standard with a sensational 4:12.4; the Dutch girl also beat her previous best with 4:15.0. Regina Kleinau and Lyusa Bragina have done 4:16.0, the latter after outsprinting Doris Brown, whose slight consolation was a U.S. record of 4:16.8.

The new hurdles events have inevitably been ushered in with a plethora of records. Pam Kilborn's inaugural mark of 13.4 set last year was ratified a few weeks ago, by which time she had already done 13.3 and a windy 13.1. The 13.3 was equalled by Teresa Sukniewicz and Karin Balzer, then the latter produced 13.2 (beating Teresa Nowak 13.3 and Barbel Podeswa 13.3) and a startling 13.0. Even allowing for the usual generous East European timing (compare the W.A.A.A. champs - Chi Cheng 13.5, Sukniewicz 13.8, Nowak 14.0), these developments show the event is quickly proving successful.

Rita Schmidt is back at the top of the High Jump list, after winning against the Soviet Union with 1.82/5'11½", she improved to 1.86/6'1½" to displace Ilona Gusenbauer (Austria), 1.84/6'0½". 1.83/6'0" has been mastered by Yordanka Blagoyeva, Maria Mračnová (née Faithová) and Tonya Lazaryeva, while Eleanor Montgomery and Ghislaine Barnay have moved into the 1.80 club. After an initial burst by Heide Rosendahl (6.64/21'9½") and Irena Szewińska (6.56/21'6½"), the Long Jump scene is relatively quiet. Viorica Viscopoleanu is a long way from her gold-medal form, and Sheila Sherwood is making a quiet but steady build-up for Athens (her best to date is 6.47/21'2½" in 5th ranking).

In contrast, the Shot is continuing to explode in all directions. Nadya Chizhova, recovered from her chastening experience in Mexico, set a new landmark with the first 20m. toss (20.09/65'11"), not long after regaining the World record with 19.71/64'8½". Chizhova chose the SU-EG match to gain revenge

over her Olympic conquerors, Margitta Gummel and Marita Lange, who produced their season's bests of 19.48/63'11" and 18.28/59'11½". Irina Solontsova and Ivanka Khristova are fourth and fifth with 17.93/58'10" and 17.87/58'7½" respectively.

Liesel Westermann has been enjoying another great season, including a host of 60m. throws, capped by her World Record of 62.70/205'8". The East Germans, however, are not doing so well as last year, although Karin Illgen holds second ranking with 59.74/196'0". There seems to be a revival in the Soviet Union, with 3 girls over 58m. - Lyusa Muravyova 58.54, Tamara Danilova 58.34 and Tonya Popova 58.16. Olympic Champion Lia Manolitu is sixth with 58.07.

Angela Ranky (as Németh, the Olympic Champion) heads the Javelin rankings with 60.58/198'9" from Ameli Koloska 59.86/196'4" and Danuta Jaworska 59.52/195'3". This event is relatively quiet so far, however. Not so the Pentathlon, where the new hurdles event has introduced two new World record holders Heide Rosendahl, predictably (5023) and Meta Antenen, rather surprisingly (5046). The latter, only 20, became the first Swiss to set a World record in a standard event; she has an excellent team-mate in Elisabeth Waldburger, 4825 for 3rd ranking so far.

The 4x400m. relay has captured quite a few headlines, as records have tumbled in regular succession. The British team of Jenny Pawsey, Pauline Attwood, Janet Simpson and Lillian Board set the first decent mark with 3:37.6, but a week later the French girls Michele Mombet, Elaine Jacq, Nicole Duclos (52.0) and Colette Besson produced 3:34.2. The same team were surprisingly beaten by Sweden, no less, 3:41.1 to 3:41.7 (with Duclos reduced to 56.0 after an individual win in 53.2) shortly thereafter. The U.S. girls showed their potential with 3:36.4, easily beating the Soviet Union, 3:38.7.

### MEN

### SPRINTS

John Carlos has been one of the world's finest furlong runners for several seasons, but his abilities over the short sprint have never been commensurate: that is - until this year. Big John must have put in a hard winter's work on starting technique, for he has proved himself a complete sprinter, and currently the World's No.1 over both distances. Admittedly, he is not quite so paramount over the 100 where his only two losses have occurred, but these have both been desperately close.

After notching up early season marks of 9.2, 9.0w. and 9.1w., the Olympic 200m. bronze medalist became, on May 9th, the fifth man to run a genuine 9.1. In fact, for some time he was convinced he had run 8.9! Barely a week later he turned out for a 100m. race in the Martin Luther King Games, his principal opponent being Charlie Greene, seeking revenge for defeat in that "windy" 9-second run. Carlos started poorly and although he seemed to have achieved the almost impossible by getting up to Greene at the half-way point, he was edged out at the tape. Both men were credited with 10.1. Subsequently, John's record has only been marred by a 6" defeat in the A.A.U. 100 yards, after what was apparently a badly organized start. His conqueror was unknown Ivory Crockett; times 9.3, 9.3, with Greene 3rd in 9.4. John made no mistake over the furlong, finishing a full half-second before runner-up Tom Randolph in 20.2. (Earlier Randolph had posted a fine 20.4 in the 1st heat, a yard back of Carlos.) A week previously John had taken the Collegiate 220 title by an even greater margin - 7/10ths. to be precise, with a winning time and meeting record of 20.2. This completed the double, as he had won the 100 yards by a clear margin from Lennox Miller of the University of Southern California and Jamaica, although the timekeepers decided on 9.2 for both, ahead of Ronnie Ray Smith in 9.3. In the U.S./U.S.S.R./

IRENA SZEWINSKA -  
SHARES EUROPEAN  
TOP-SPOT.



**THE HAMMER THROW.**  
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VIKTOR KUDINSKIY - POISED FOR ATHENS 'CHASE WIN ?

Commonwealth Triangular, Carlos ran out a dual winner in 10.3 and 20.3 over generally moderate opposition, incidentally levelling the score with Crockett in the former race.

Other 9.2's have been posted by Mike Goodrich, Earl Harris, Andy Hopkins (19) and Robert Taylor in finishing 1st and 2nd in the Houston Meet of Champions, and by no less than three men in one race at Sacramento on 21st June - Doug. Hawken, Eddie Hart and Hopkins again.

In the 100 metres event, the time of 10-seconds has been achieved by the Cuban flash Hermes Ramirez who joined that elite band on 5th July running on one of the fastest tracks in the World, at Zurich. Ed Roberts (Trinidad) wasn't far behind in 10.1, whilst 3rd place went to Phillipe Clerc, another 1/10th further back. The Swiss underlined his challenge for Athens more significantly by taking the 200m. at the same meeting in 20.3 for a new Continental record, and ahead of Roberts (4th O.G.).

#### 400 METRES/440 YARDS

Currently, U.S. supremacy over one lap is as great, if not greater, than last year's, although of course the European boys have not yet really got down to it. A solid phalanx of sparkling new talent has arrived on the American scene, spearheaded by 20 year old Curtis Mills, whose best prior to the N.C.A.A. Championships was 45.9y. Mills showed a sensational improvement in grabbing the title, beating a certain Lee Evans by no less than half-a-second and under-cutting Tommie Smith's World record by 1/10th s. to 44.7y. Lee, who had previously announced that he intended to break the record, was shattered and admitted subsequently that he had been watching only Larry James (5th in 45.8) and Edesel Garrison (4th in 45.7). The latter whose 1968 best was 46.7y. has been showing steady improvement this season climaxing with 45.5y. in the Collegiate semi-finals. The stage was apparently set for a mighty return battle at the A.A.U.: the first words of his Coach, Bud Winter, to Evans after the N.C.A.A. race were "I wouldn't want to run against you next week!". However, Mills would not depart from his decision (made previously) to retire there and then in order to obtain three full months rest before resuming serious training for the indoor season.

In his absence (and several other prominent runners as well) Lee had no trouble in retaining the National title (for the 4th straight year) in 45.6y. from Tommie Turner, 46.0, Jim Kemp 46.3 and a disappointing Larry James also 46.3. Against the U.S.S.R. and the Commonwealth Evans cleared 400m. in 45.3, his only opposition coming from team-mate Turner (45.4). In addition to the last-named, who ran a fine 45.5y. in the N.C.A.A. heats for third more should be heard of Al Coffee, former 9.5/20.9y. sprinter whose first serious effort over the quarter was "stopped" at 45.6 ("Instant" coffee?) Bill Wehrwein 45.7y.n. Gary Womble 45.8y.n. and Len Van Hofwegen 45.8y.n.

The best "non-American" timing so far has been recorded by Charles Asati of Kenya, better known as a "pure" sprinter, who after defeating all the Polish elite at the Kusocinski Memorial meeting on June 26th in 46.0m. ran 45.6m. at Waldenburg two days later.

#### 800 METRES/880 YARDS

Three men who are likely to have as much say as anyone as to the destination of the 800m. European Championship medals, Josef Plachy (Czech) and the East German duo of Dieter Fromm and Manfred Matuschewski, have already shown impressive form. In fact the three tangled at the Rosicky Memorial meeting (Prague, July 2nd) when the young Czech won handily in 1:45.9, followed by Fromm 1:46.2, "Matu" 1:46.7 and compatriot Jungwirth 1:46.8. No other Europeans have as yet shown championship form. Matuschewski has since been timed at 1:45.7.

Byron Dyce, a Jamaican National and student at New York University proved himself Boss of the U.S. scene. Dyce, winner of the I.C.4A. Title in 1:47.4, faced very tough opposition in both N.C.A.A. and A.A.U. meetings (in the former race every finalist ran a personal best) and the results were as follows:- N.C.A.A. 1st - Dyce, 1:45.9 (3rd. fastest-ever); 2nd - Art Sandison, 1:46.1; 3rd - Juris Luzins, 1:46.4; 4th - David Matina, 1:46.5; 5th - Mark Winzenried 1:46.6; 6th - Ralph Schultz, 1:47.3; 7th - Craig Endicott 1:47.4; 8th - Pat Collins, 1:48.4. (In the heats Dan Morran's time of 1:47.8 was not sufficient to qualify him for the semi-finals). A.A.U. 1st - Dyce, 1:46.6; 2nd - Luzins, 1:46.7; 3rd - Felix Johnson, 1:47.0; 4th - John Perry, 1:47.8; 5th - Sandison, 1:47.8; 6th - Lowell Paul, 1:47.9.

Earlier in the season Felix Johnson had shown splendid form with a 1:46.5y. (after a 51.4 1st lap) and a relay leg of 1:45.7y. Mention should also be made of a highly promising talent emerging in South Africa: 20 year old Dick Broberg ran 1:46.4m. at Stellenbosch on March 7th.

#### 1500 METRES/MILE

"The Jim Ryun of today is dead". The date: June 29th; the speaker: Jim Ryun. He went on - "If I don't get over this pressure I put on myself, the fear of losing, I may never step on a track again".

These comments were brought on by the two sensational mile defeats (the first in 4 years) handed out by Marty Liquori to the World record holder. At the N.C.A.A. meeting Ryun made up ground in the last lap to level with Liquori at the start of the home straight but instead of accelerating past, as expected, Jim dropped back 30 yards from the tape. The times: 3:57.7 and 3:59.3 were unimportant, except possibly as indicating the margin of defeat. However even this shock paled into insignificance compared with the A.A.U. mile race on June 29th. Ryun started off well, running the 1st lap comfortably in 3rd place and some way ahead of Liquori "doing a Whetton" at the back of the field. Then without warning, shortly after the start of the 2nd lap, Ryun fell back so suddenly that Liquori thought Jim was running at him, not away from him. A few yards further on Ryun jogged off the track. Liquori duly won a race from which all drama had drained off in 3:59.5. Liquori finished off the U.S. domestic season with a victory over 1,500m. vs. U.S.S.R./Commonwealth, although he had to go hard over the last lap to catch the Soviet champion Zhelobovskiy, who ran a good front race. Times: 3:40.1, 3:40.4, whilst John Whetton was a clear third in 3:42.6.

#### 3 MILES/5000 METRES - 6 MILES/10,000 METRES

Ron Clarke in another Grand Tour of Europe continues to run astonishingly fast times nearly every time he appears, in an almost uninterrupted triumphal progress. However on one of his favourite tracks, at Stockholm on July 2nd, he met his match over 5,000m in the person of Jurgen May. In a tense finish the German won in the very good time of 13:33.0, Clarke being given 13:33.8 ahead of current European champion Harald Norpoth 13:36.0. The Russians have good quality in depth, as usual, headed by Ivan Shopsha who beat Leonid Alanov and Vladimir Shashmurin in Moscow (June 11th) times: 13:37.6, 13:38.8 and 13:46.4. Earlier in the year in the Leningrad - R.S.F.S.R. - Ukraine - Moscow match, Rashid Sharafetdinov won handily in 13:38.0 over Alanov, whilst on June 5th in that town that has many distance running associations, Turku (Finland), Aleksandr Morozov the steeplechaser raced speedily over the flat in 13:41.8 to finish clear of Nikolay Sviridov (13:44.6).

Sviridov is better over the longer distance of course but could not cope with the finish of Jurgen Haase in the meeting in the Soviet capital referred to above over 10,000m. Winner's time - 28:08.2, 2nd 28:13.8, 3rd (Dutov) 28:40.8.

Haase again proved too good for Soviet (and also Polish) long distance men in the match between the three countries, clocking 28:52.4. France seemed to have found a prospect in René Jourdan who smashed the National record by nearly 20 seconds running 28:28.8 at St. Maur in early May (and incidentally runner-up Lepape recorded 28:47.0) but he has not shown that sort of form since.

After his defeat by protege Dick Taylor at Crystal Palace Ron Clarke went on to Scandinavia and to show he was still the Boss, clocked the World's fastest this year of 28:03.6, in Oslo on July 8th. (That very good runner from Japan Keisuke Sawaki ran second in 28:42.8). The point was underlined in Los Angeles when Ron eased home in 28:35.4, defeating Sviridov 28:49.8, new American find 6'6" Jack Bachele (who has run a 27:30.0 "6" this year) 29:18.0 and Baidyuk 29:22.4. Taylor, on 28:06.8 heads a formidable list of class Britishers - 11 have run under 29 minutes this year, and the competition at the A.A.A. event in August should be intense.

#### STEEPLECHASE

Only World record holder Jouko Kuha has ever run faster than Anatoliy Morozov, winner for the Soviet Union at Los Angeles in 8:26.0. Runner up Kerry O'Brien, representing the Commonwealth, was far from disgraced: his time of 8:26.8 moved him up from 6th to 4th on the All-Time list. They both might have had more say about the whereabouts of last year's Olympic medals, if the Games had been held at a lesser altitude. The new American champion Mike Manley faded over the last lap but his clocking of 8:35.2 was still 1.4 seconds faster than his A.A.U. victory time and previous P.B.

France has two "comers" in J.P. Villain and J.P. Ouine, ready to takeover Guy Texereau's mantle. In fact, Villain (remember his astonishing running in his Olympic Games heat?) was only 8/10th outside the National record with his winning performance v. Poland of 8:30.8; he later annihilated the opposition in the French Championship by a searing initial pace, and

JURGEN HAASE - TOO GOOD FOR TOP SOVIETS.



although fading later, still finished well ahead in 8:32.4. The majority of the other sub- 8:40 marks were recorded in the U.S.S.R.: the result in Moscow (May 29th) Kudinskiy Ist 8:37.6, Naroditskiy 2nd 8:38.0, Rybachenko 3rd 8:38.2 is typical of several races in Russia this year, and indicative of the class of competition.

#### HURDLES

One event which has a very familiar look is the High Hurdles. The Gold and Silver medallists from Mexico, Willie Davenport and Ervin Hall together with 4th placer Leon Coleman have dominated the 1969 scene. Principal results, in chronological order:-

**Martin Luther King Freedom Games (May 18th)** 1st Davenport 13.3, 2nd Coleman 13.4, 3rd Hall 13.5. Davenport's left hand was "spiked" by Hall half-way through the race, and required four stitches but this does not seem to have retarded his running unduly.

**California Relays (May 24th)** 1st Coleman 13.5w., 2nd Hall 13.5w., 3rd Davenport 13.5w. Davenport, unusually for him, had a poor start and although up with the leaders at the 9th hurdle fell away again.

**Compton Invitational (June 7th)** 1st Davenport 13.5, 2nd Coleman 13.8.

**Orange County Invitational (June 14th)** 1st Davenport 13.8, 2nd Coleman 13.9, 3rd Ottoz 13.9. Coleman turned the tables on the Italian who had pipped him for the bronze medal in Mexico. A.A.U. (June 29th) 1st = Davenport & Coleman 13.3, 3rd Hall 13.3 (4th Richmond Flowers 13.5). A tremendous battle resulting in the fastest 3-man race of all time. Coleman was off fast, Hall moved up by the 4th hurdle and Davenport by the 6th. Going over the last hurdle Willie appeared to be slightly in front but Coleman finished with a strong burst, as all three dipped into the tape.

**U.S. v U.S.S.R. v. Commonwealth (July 19th)** 1st Davenport 13.5, 2nd Coleman 13.6, (3rd Pascoe 14.0). Earlier Hall had won the N.C.A.A. title (the other two not of course being eligible) in 13.3, after tying the world record of 13.2 in the 1st heat and clocking 13.3 in the semi-final. Second in that race was Flowers at 13.5, ahead of Tom Hill 13.6, whilst the other "semi" was won in 13.5 by Bill High from Herm. Franklin, both clocking 13.5. Davenport himself achieved one of his few remaining track ambitions by equalling the 110m. record also 13.2 in Zurich on July 4th. \*Dubious: The photo-timing showed 13.67.

Europe has more talent than ever before. Apart from Ottoz (13.6y) 13.6m. clockings have been credited to the West German pair of established star Werner Trzmiel and the less well-known Gunther Nickel; David Hemery, 20 year old J.P. Corval (France), whilst other youngsters Pascoe (21) and French hope Guy Drut (18) can point to 13.7. The French Championships produced a hot race - Corval 1st in 13.6w from Drut and Schoebel, 13.8 each.

World No. 1 over the Intermediate Hurdles, with an almost perfect record, is undoubtedly previously unranked American Ralph Mann. His best mark prior to this season, 51.6y made him 62nd equal in the World for 1968. The tall (6'4") and powerful student at Brigham Young University started off with a 50.8y victory, then went on and on improving almost every time he raced, culminating in an American record equalling run of 49.6y in the N.C.A.A. holding off Wes Williams 49.7 and Carl Wood 50.0. Mann proved superior to all opposition in the National Championships winning a slower race in a time of 50.1y from Nick Lee, 2nd at 50.3 in only his fifth race of the season, and Wood again 3rd, this time at 50.6. Incidentally Geoff Vanderstock could only make 7th in this race, whilst Ron Whitney hit the last hurdle and did not finish. Lee showed what he might have achieved had he started competition sooner by cantering home in the match against U.S.S.R./Commonwealth in 49.7m, chased by John Sherwood 50.0, Gary Knye 50.2, Mann 50.3 and Skomorokhov also 50.3.

The Russian is so far the fastest European at 49.9m, recorded at Turin on June 1st a full second ahead of Roberto Frinalli. (The Italian later retained his Italian championship with a useful 50.3m, with a surprisingly close second in Ballatti 50.5). Skomorokhov's time has in fact also been credited to Olympic runner-up Gerhard Hennige winner of a quality race at Zurich on July 4th. West Germany showed impressive strength by also providing 2nd and 3rd place winners, both in 50.1m: Schubert and Klausner respectively.

#### JUMPS

Soviet high-jumping prestige took a beating at the Mexico Olympics and Gavrilov's convincing victory at Los Angeles in the Triangular, leaping 7'3"/2.21 (and incidentally thereby heading the 1969 World List) must have been all the more satisfying to the

Soviets for that. He won by a margin of 3" from Otis Burrell (A.A.U. winner at 7'11"/2.16) and Laurie Peckham, Commonwealth champion. Burrell had a relatively easy win in the American Championship on 7'11" as Dick Fosbury declined to take his third jump at that height... "It's fatigue, mental and physical" said Dick "I just didn't feel like jumping". Earlier though he had zestfully taken the N.C.A.A. title with 7'4"/2.23. Second was Chris Celion (Brigham Young University and Sweden) at 7'11", and third Ron Jourdan, same height. Jourdan incidentally had a splendidly consistent record at 7' or better in inter-college matches.

U.S.S.R. strength in depth this year is demonstrated, apart from Gavrilov, by the performances of Skvortskov 2.18/7'11 1/2", new hope Martinov 2/18, Moroz 2.17/7'1 1/2", Bolshov 2.16/7'11" and Mospanov 2.15/7'0 1/2". Elsewhere, National records have been set or equalled by Jonsson and Lundmark (Sweden) each at 2.18, Koppen (East Germany) 2.18, Baudis (C.S.R.) 2.16, Azzaro (Italy) 2.16, Tomizowa (Japan) 2.15, and Ioan Serban (Rumania) 2.14.

Almost every week since the season started one Vaultor or another in the U.S. has been trying to clear 18' and/or a new World record. Dick Railsback attempted 17'10"/5.43 on March 28th and then after licking Bob Seagren at the Pacific Eight Conference meeting on May 17th: 17'6 1/2"/5.34 - 17'0"/5.18, he reportedly got his body over 18'0 1/2"/5.50 before brushing the bar off. Seagren showed the stuff of which Olympic Champions are made by clearing 17'7"/5.36 the very next day at the Martin Luther King Games, and then went on to assert his superiority at the N.C.A.A. and A.A.U. Championships. At the former, after winning from Bob Vaughn 17'7"/5.36 to 16'8"/5.08, he had the bar raised to 18'0"/5.48. On his third vault he cleared the bar, and in his delight started to clap his hands only for his left hand to push the bar off. A week later the competition was tougher, including John Pennel who a few days before had set up a new World record height of 17'10 1/2"/5.45 and Casey Carrigan, High School boy who had himself attempted 17'10 1/2"/5.44 at a Californian School meeting on June 14th. When the competition had been decided - 1st Seagren 17'6"/5.33, 2nd Pennel 17'0"/5.18 and 3rd Carrigan 17'0", the Champion essayed 18'0 1/2". Again it was only his hand that brushed the bar, which did not drop until Bob himself was down. His second attempt, apparently at 18'0 1/2", was also very close. He was no more successful at Los Angeles, although a clear winner of the Match event at 17'6 1/2"/5.35.

In Europe, champion Nordwig (E.G.) has been vaulting well, winning competitions at 5.35/17'6 1/2" and 5.30/17'4 1/2" whilst the man many regard as his "heir-apparent" Italian Renato Dionisi has cleared 5.30/17'4 1/2", 5.27/17'3 1/2" and - on a number of occasions - 5.20/17'0 1/2". Erkki Mustakari of Finland cleared 17'4"/5.28 early in the season in the U.S.A. Other 5.20m Europeans include Papanicolau (Greece) Alarotu (Finland) and Blomqvist (Sweden).

Europeans predominate in the Long Jump, despite the fact that American vice champion, Stan Whitley, won at Los Angeles over Ter-Ovanesyan 26'8 1/2"/8.14, 26'7 1/2"/8.11 (Beamon 4th 25'1 1/2"/7.66). Beamon's best in 1969 was in fact his winning leap at the A.A.U. of 26'11"/8.20 over a not particularly distinguished field: 2nd Whitley 26'4"/8.02, 3rd Proctor 26'2"/7.97 (winner of the N.C.A.A. at 26'11 1/2" w./8.22w. over Whitley 26'7" w./8.10w).

At Odessa, June 1st, the Znamenskiy M.M. produced a close and high quality competition: T-0 a good winner in 8.21/26'11 1/2" from Borkovskiy 8.00/26'3", Lepik 7.99/26'2 1/2" and Khlopotov 7.97/26'1 1/2" (all S.U.). Jack Pani has been leaping well for his native France: 8.16/26'9 1/2" (and another of 8.10/26'7") v. Switzerland and a windy 8.22 against Poland ahead of countrymen Ugolini 8.12w., and Tourret 7.9lw. and Stepien of Poland 7.80w. The last named subsequently produced a surprising 8.21/26'11 1/2" in the match versus S.U. and East Germany. Lynn Davies has so far produced only one class leap, and this was in Berlin on June 18th heading Klaus Beer by 7 cms., 8.14/26'8 1/2" to 8.07/26'5 1/2". For his part, Beer can point to a victory over Ter-Ovanesyan in Sweden a week previously; distances 8.04/26'4 1/2" and 7.97 respectively.

Other than excellent performances by Aussies, Phil May and Mick McGrath of 55'2 1/2"/16.82 and 54'3"/16.53 respectively, (each having a superior wind assisted mark, i.e. 55'4"/16.86 for May and 54'9"/16.69, McGrath), nothing particularly exciting has as yet taken place in the Triple Jump pits.

Amongst the leading performances are the following: -Sanyeyev (Sov) 16.91/55'6; Drehmel (E-G) 16.73/54'10 1/2; Dudkin (Sov) 16.69/54'9; Kalocsai (Hun) 16.43/53'11; Corbu (Rum) 16.39/53'9 1/2; Kravchenko (Sov) 16.39; Craft (USA) 16.38/53'9; Czitra (Hun) 16.35/53'7 1/2; Firca (Fra) 16.33/53'7 (Nat.Rec); Bessonov (Sov) and Pousi (Fin) also 16.33.



LYNN DAVIES - ONLY ONE 'CLASS' LEAP SO FAR THIS YEAR,

ROMUALD KLIM - NEW WORLD RECORD.



Sanyeyev's leading mark came in the U.S.A./U.S.S.R./ Commonwealth match, beating Dudkin 16.44/53'11½" and May only 4th at 15.75/51'8½".

## THROWS

The East German strength in the shot is nothing less than fantastic, with four men currently over 66'. The season had barely opened, when on May 14th in East Berlin Hans-Joachim Rothenburg improved on Guschin's 1968 European record by 21cm. to 20.49/67'2½". Within a few weeks Hans-Dieter Gies, at 22, three years younger than Rothenburg, had pushed the standard up to 20.64/67'8½", and a few days later Olympic 4th placer Dieter Hoffmann improved on his personal best to 20.60/67'7", with Gies trailing at 20.29/66'6½", and Birtenbach (W.G.) on 19.94/65'5". So Rothenburg, European record holder in May is East German 3rd string by July. The reserve strength is made up of Hartmut Briesenick 20.22/66'4", Rudolf Langer 19.83/63'11½" and Uwe Grabe 19.19/62'11½". The only other Europeans over 19m. to date have been Heinfried Birtenbach (W.G.) 20.14, Bengt Bendeus (Sweden) 19.87, Arnjolt Beer (France) 19.54, Ricky Bruch 19.40/63'7½" and Matti Yrjola, Finnish record-holder, with the National standard now at 19.10/62'8".

The main interest in the U.S.A. was whether 19 year old Karl Salb could topple the Establishment. After opening his outdoor season with a fine 66'4½"/20.22, Karl could not get out of the 63'-64' doldrums for a few weeks, but then hit 67'0½"/20.43 early May and was an easy winner of the Collegiate title with 64'9"/19.73. However, at the A.A.U. Neil Steinhauer who has recovered his 1967 form won handily with a good 67'4"/20.53, Randy Matson taking 2nd 66'6½"/20.28 and Salb trailing 65'3½"/19.90. The Olympic Champion started his outdoor season only in June, and possibly may have lost some of his enthusiasm; he had planned to retire, but his new employers apparently preferred him to continue.

Ludvík Daněk made his customary tour of the States earlier this season and clashed with Jay Silvester three times. At the California Relays (May 24th) the World record holder won with a first round toss of 211'2"/64.36, although the Czech was close up with 209'11"/63.98. Jon Cole, at 5'10½" one of the shortest top class throwers in the world, was a good third (203'11"/62.16). Then at the Kennedy Memorial Games Jay again clinched the event straight off hitting 208'10"/63.66, but the European record holder was pipped for 2nd by Tim Vollmer equalling his personal best cast of 204'12"/62.24. Daněk, on 203'8"/62.08 at least had the satisfaction of overcoming Al Oerter 203'0"/61.88. The result of the Coliseum-Compton Invitational was very similar: 1st Silvester 208'2"/63.46, 2nd Daněk 203'6"/61.72, 3rd Cole 199'11"/60.68, 4th Oerter 196'3"/59.82. Twenty four hours later Ludvík took part in a small meeting at Long Beach (Silvester not competing) and whirled the discus out to a superb 218'2"/66.48 for a new European record, with a 2nd best effort of 212'1"/64.64. Jon Cole showing steady progress was a worthy 2nd placer at 205'7"/62.66. In fact Jon provided one of the major upsets in the American Championships (albeit by the narrowest of margins) in taking over Silvester's championship from him, 208'10"/63.66 to 208'9"/63.62. Gary Carlsen was third at 204'11"/62.46 and fourth Tim Vollmer 196'7"/59.92.

The Collegiate title had earlier been annexed by the huge South African, John van Reenen, unbeaten in Inter-College competition. He was consistent in the 190'-200' range, whilst his best throw of 207'6"/63.24 ranks him as the 9th best performer of all time.

Leading the European "pack", in addition of course to Daněk, have been the Mexico Vice-Champion Lothar Milde, winner of the International matches vs. U.S.S.R. and Poland (62.48) and Hungary (62.36) and Ricky Bruch, winner of several competitions over 200 feet (best to date 62.38). Ferenc Tegla increased his own Hungarian National record to 61.70/202'5" recently, and his team-mate Geza Fejer at 61.00. Vladimir Lyakhov had a surprise win over Silvester in the L.A. match 201'5" to 200'3". Other good marks have come from the New Zealander Robin Tait 205'6" and shot putter Rothenburg 62.12.

The standard of performance in the Hammer throwing competition at Budapest on June 14th/15th has rarely, if ever, been surpassed. The qualifying round produced the following throws:-

Klim (Sov) - 72.84/238'11; Bondarchuk (Sov) - 72.36/237'4; Zsvitzotzky (Hun) 70.68/231'10; Caspers (W-G) - 68.28/224'0; Theimer (E-G) - 66.88/219'5. On the following day the result of the actual competition was:- 1st - Klim 74.52/244'6 (World Record); 2nd - Bondarchuk 71.78/235'6; 3rd - Zsvitzotzky 71.64/235'0; 4th - Theimer 68.34/224'2; 5th - Kondrashov (Sov) 67.74/222'3.

Klim had a second 74m.+ performance in the match with East Germany and Poland - 74.30/243'9" to be precise. To emphasise Soviet supremacy Anatoliy Shuplyakov also moved up to Zsvitzotzky's 1968 world standard with a mighty toss of 73.72/241'10 at Riga on June 22nd. The leading Russians met again at the Znamenskiy Memorial meeting, with the consistent Klim and Bondarchuk sending out the ball and chain to 71.96/236'11" and 71.18/233'6" respectively, ahead of Kondrashov 68.58/225'0" and Baltovskiy 68.20/223'9". There is little doubt which is the leading Nation in this event, which was emphasised to the U.S. and the Commonwealth at Los Angeles, Klim and Bondarchuk each throwing 237'5"/72.36, but the vice-Olympic Champion having to yield on 2nd best throws of 237'3"/72.32 and 236'2"/71.98 respectively. Zsvitzotzky himself has a best to date of 72.52/237'11".

However, mention should be made of the standard achieved by the three medal winners in the American Championships, Tom Gage (228'5"/69.62), George Frenn (227'2"/69.24) and that splendid veteran Hal Connolly (222'9"/67.90.). Earlier Hal had recorded a 228'3"/69.58 cast, his best effort since his 1965 World record of 233'9"/71.26, and more recently he has improved to 232'5"/70.84.

In 1968 the Javelin was dominated by Jánis Lūsis: in addition to his Olympic Championship, he recorded ten performances superior to any other spearman, and his World record of 91.98/301'9" was over 11' better than any other man was able to achieve.

Contrast this with 1969 (and the season only half completed): the seemingly unapproachable world standard has been shattered by Jorma Kinnunen with a stupendous throw of 92.70/304'11" at Tampere on June 18th, whilst his friend and rival Pauli Nevala (remember? - the surprise 1964 O.G. winner) moved himself up to 4th on the All-Time list with 91.40/300'10". This was in Helsinki on July 20th. These two have competed against each other on an incredible number of occasions this year - 12 times in a period of 6 weeks in May/June - but presumably being Finns they thrive on this sort of "punishment".

Another exciting development has been the rise of the powerfully built young (20) American, Mark Murro to genuine World class. Technically somewhat raw, Murro has tremendous power: a week after recording his best of 292'8"/89.21 he came up against Kinnunen in the Kennedy Memorial Games. The 5'9", 165lb. Finn with the accuracy of a good darts player put one straight down the middle in a tricky wind to 282'11"/86.24, but the American, although casting the spear with throws of 290'+ and in the region of 295' outside the sector, could only register a valid 270'8"/82.50.

Lūsis himself has by no means been inactive taking the Znamenskiy Memorial in 85.66/281'0" (with a qualifying throw of 88.38/289'11" - season's top to date) easily winning against the Commonwealth and the U.S.A. (Murro finishing last) with 277'3"/84.50 and defeating the Poles and East Germans in that International match, putting one out to 86.92/ took 2nd, although over 4m. inferior to his 1969 best of 84.28/276'7" and the "G.O.M." of the event Jan Sidlo (who is still up with 83.80/274'11" New Soviet hope Jánis Doniņš trailed, well below his peak mark this year of 83.88/275'2".

## DECATHLON

Joachim Kirst (EG) has amassed 8279 points, moving to second on the all-time list; compatriot Rudiger Demmig is also over the 8000 mark with 8027. Olympic champion Bill Toomey is still going strong, currently ranking second with 8168 followed by Rick Sloan 8051.



ZSVITZOTZKY - "CONSISTENT".

JANIS LUSIS - BY NO MEANS INACTIVE.



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PHOTOGRAPHS ON PAGE 2: ARTHUR ROWE by B.I. P. P. A and DOROTHY HYMAN by Mark Shearman. COVER-PHOTO OF PETER BROWNE shows him being presented with the TOMMY HAMPSON MEMORIAL TROPHY by the 1932 Olympic 800m. champion's widow.