

9+60+

National AAU 20-Kilometer Race Walking Championship &  
Pan American Games/USA vs. USSR vs. World All-Stars Trials  
May 23, 1971 Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

*A San Francisco, Calif., May 23/ by Bob Bowman*

This years National AAU 20-kilometer championship proved to be the best

yet for depth and quality of times with fourteen ~~men~~ under the once formidable  
*1:40:00.* *over the Golden Gate Park route*  
US barrier of ~~1 hour 40 minutes~~. Cool weather no doubt helped many of the

45 starters to personal bests, even though winds bothered the walkers in the

latter stages of the race. *Tom Dooley and Goetz Klopfer emerged*

*first and second to earn positions in the US-USSR meet as well as the Pan-Am*

The race for the first two coveted positions shaped up early with Tom

Dooley, Goetz Klopfer, Larry Young, Ron Laird and Dave Romansky closely

bunched at 5-kilometers. Dooley, Klopfer and Young started to pull away from

Laird and Romansky around 7-kilometers as both received cautions from the

judges. Romansky was disqualified shortly thereafter on this second lap of

the 5-kilometer course. Young, still a bit short on conditioning after a

two year lay off, ~~began to drop~~ *ped* back slowly just before the 10-kilometer mark,

but stayed within 100 yards of the two leaders through 15-kilometers. Dooley

opened up 20 seconds on Klopfer in the last mile to take the win, having stayed

with his Athens teammate and roommate in hopes of the one-two finish. John

Knifton, a 50-kilometer specialist, walked a strong steady race to just shade

Floyd Godwin, who also moved well in the last half of the race. Athens won the

team title for the fourth consecutive year.

*Results*

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Tom Dooley(Athens) 1:32:18      | 11. Ron Kulik(NYAC) 1:39:32           |
| 2. Goetz Klopfer(Athens) 1:32:38   | 12. Bob Bowman(Strid) 1:39:42         |
| 3. Larry Young(MATC) 1:33:34       | 13. Todd Scully(Army) 1:39:47         |
| 4. Ron Laird(NYAC) 1:34:26         | 14. Bob Henderson(U. of Ill.) 1:39:51 |
| 5. John Knifton(NYAC) 1:35:08      | 15. Ned Amstutz(Colo TC) 1:40:06      |
| 6. Floyd Godwin(Colo TC) 1:35:13   | 16. Steve Geiver(unatt.) 1:40:58      |
| 7. Bill Ranney(Athens) 1:36:12     | 17. Jim Bean(unatt.) 1:41:29          |
| 8. Karl Merschenz(Colo TC) 1:38:07 | 18. Jim Hanley(Strid) 1:44:05         |
| 9. John Kelly(Strid) 1:38:17       | 19. Steve Merrilees(Army) 1:44:08     |
| 10. Gary Westerfield(Army) 1:38:58 | 20. Bob Kitchen(Athens) 1:45:24       |

D.Q.: Romansky, Daniel(NYAC), Diebold(Shore AC)

*carry  
to file*

*include*