

**RESULTS!**

Eight pages of the leading results from road, multi-terrain and cross country

# Athletics Weekly

**PLUS!**

**'Counties' cancelled**

*All the details  
Page 4*

**PLUS!**

**European rankings**

*See how many  
Brits made  
Europe's top 10  
Page 26*

## Life under Linford

*Top sprinter Katharine Merry on what it's like to be the only woman in Christie's Cardiff training group – page 8*

January 14 1998 £1.40





# Thriller in the net



Epic victor: Heinz Weis lumbers around his lap of honour after his amazing win

*Heinz Weis won the most exciting of all the gold medals in Athens – but few really noticed*

Report: Trevor Frecknall Picture: Mark Shearman

If the lead had changed 10 times in any of the foot races at last summer's IAAF World Championships, it would have been dubbed The Race of the Century.

As it happened in the hammer, though, there wasn't such a rush for the smelling salts (though cynics suggested that if one of Greece's own athletes had been involved in the thriller, it might have been a different matter).

But in many ways, the last-gasp winner was the most inspirational of the entire 10 days – and not just because he took the lead four times and lost it thrice before clinching the gold medal with the final throw of the competition.

Heinz Weis was 34 years old. He had not won a major title since the 1985 World Students' Games, even though he was ranked top of the world in 1989 with 82.84 metres. Indeed, his students' gold had turned to silver in 1987 and 1989, and to bronze in 1991 before he finally completed his studies.

Although he built a compelling record as a competitor, his only tangible rewards were bronze medals from the 1991 World Championships (to world record-holder Yuriy Sedykh and Igor Astapkovich) and the 1994 Europeans (behind Vasily Sidorenko and Astapkovich).

To make his Athens success even more outrageously unexpected, no German had won a major hammer title since the 1936 Olympic Games.

But Weis is nothing if not a Trier – after all, that's the name of the town in which he was born.

Having seen the champion of 1993 and 1995 Andrey Abduvaliev fail to qualify for this final, Weis could have been excused for

expecting his main rival would be the reigning Olympic champion Balazs Kiss.

But the Hungarian never got higher than third (in round five) and subsided out of the medals in the last amazing shake-up while Weis won a magnificent battle with Sidorenko for the title.

The lead see-sawed so dramatically in the last three rounds, it became the hammer throw's equivalent of heavyweight boxing's Rumble in the Jungle between Mohammed Ali and George Foreman.

On that occasion, Ali soaked up the punishment for round after round before springing an unexpected knock-out blow on his rival.

Weis got better with every round. But for all his brains and brawn, his explanation of how he struck gold was extremely simplistic considering he is a wealthy businessman outside athletics.

He explained: "First you give a strong shout and then you tell the hammer, 'Fly, fly!' I nearly lost my voice supporting the flight."

## Factfile

**Name:** Heinz Weis  
**Born:** July 14 1963, Trier, West Germany  
**Ht:** 1.93m (6ft 3in)  
**Wt:** 120kg (265lb)  
**Championship progression**  
**1985:** 1st World Students' Games  
**1987:** 6th World Championships  
**1987:** 2nd World Students' Games  
**1988:** 5th Olympic Games  
**1989:** 2nd World Students' Games  
**1990:** 8th European Champs  
**1991:** 3rd World Championships  
**1991:** 3rd World Students' Games  
**1992:** 6th Olympic Games  
**1994:** 3rd European Champs  
**1996:** 5th Olympic Games

## Hammering on

THIS is how the lead changed hands in the hammer final on August 3:  
**Round 1:** Koji Murofushi (JPN) opened with 74.82m. Vadim Khersontsev (RUS) went to 76.24, Vasily Sidorenko (RUS) to 78.24.  
**Round 2:** Sidorenko extended to 79.10.  
**Round 3:** Heinz Weis reached 80.24 to ensure he would be throwing last in the final three rounds.  
**Round 4:** Sidorenko went to 80.38, Weis responded with 80.52.  
**Round 5:** Sidorenko reached 80.76, Weis responded with 81.14.  
**Round 6:** Andrey Skvaruk (UKR), languishing in sixth, closed with 81.46. Weis improved yet again, to 81.78.  
**Result:** 1 Weis 81.78; 2 Skvaruk 81.46; 3 Sidorenko 80.76

**'To make his Athens success even more outrageous, no German had won a major hammer title since the 1936 Olympic Games ...'**

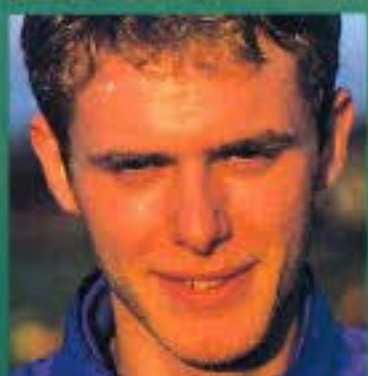


**RESULTS!**

15 pages of the leading results from road, new terrain and track & field

# Athletics Weekly

Euro team  
finalised



Team news: page 3  
Euro preview: page 8

## British League

Brendan Reilly  
clears 2.28m at  
Barnet Copthall  
to earn European  
Championships  
selection  
Report page 2

# *Reilly on a ROLL!*

August 12 1998 £1.50



9 770004 667073

## Tribute to Black

Eight-page pull-out devoted to Britain's  
most successful 400m runner — page 25







Glory road: Richard Nerurkar

year's European U23s before taking bronze at the Worlds.

## ■ Triple jump

**CBP:** Leonid Voloshin (URS) 17.74/0.8 Split '90

THAT ankle injury, aggravated at the Sheffield GP, can't hamper Jonathan Edwards. Can it? The world record-holder, who had to settle for silvers in Atlanta and Athens, deserves a pain-free run through Budapest after dominating this season. His closest challenger, Denis Kapustin, holds this title. Onachie Achike has improved his PB by 54cm this summer after training in Australia with Keith Connor, and Julian Golley is in his best form since winning the Commonwealth title in '94.

## ■ Shot put

**CBP:** Werner Gunthor (SUI) 22.22 Stuttgart '86

HOPEFULLY "drugs scandals" came and went with Norwegian Kjell Ove Hauge (season's best: 20.39m) announcing his retirement after testing positive for the steroid metandione.

It will be fascinating to see if 34-year-old Dragan Peric, eighth in the 1996 Olympics, really is as far ahead as the stats suggest in an event in which Mark Proctor and Shaun Pickering again represent Britain.

## ■ Discus

**CBP:** Wolfgang Schmidt (GDR) 67.20 Prague '78

WHILE Robert Weir gets a chance to improve on his great eighth in last year's Worlds, 26-year-old Virgilijus Alekna from Lithuania will aim to put a golden seal on his best season yet by beating the reigning Olympic and world champion Lars Riedel.

## ■ Hammer

**CBP:** Yuriy Sedykh (URS) 86.74 Stuttgart '86

THIS is the event most likely to fill the Népstadion with expectant locals cheering on Olympic champion Balazs Kiss and 34-year-old Tibor Gecsek.

## ■ Javelin

**CBP:** STEVE BACKLEY 87.30 Split '90

STEVE BACKLEY bids for a hat-trick of titles having consistently reached the high-80s this summer despite a niggling injury. In the absence of the injured Jan Zel-

ezny, only 23-year-old Aki Paviainen has gone further. And the Finn has yet to find his best form when the medals beckon.

Mick Hill hopes to be pain-free after being hampered by whiplash injuries from a motor accident and Mark Roberson will again aim beyond 85 metres.

## ■ Decathlon

**CBP:** DALEY THOMPSON 8811 Split '90

ALREADY this summer, six Europeans have exceeded 8453 points, which were enough to secure the title for Frenchman Alain Blondel four years ago. Erki Nool, first in Gotzis (8672) and European Cup of Combined Events (8628) and fourth in the Goodwill Games (8386), will seek to overcome the world champion Tomas Dvorak.

## ■ 4x100m relay

**CBP:** France 37.79 Split '90

AMAZING though it may be to those drooling over the quality and quantity of Britain's current young sprinters, GBR has never won this event. With France on a hat-trick, there's no better time for the Brit Pack to build on the bronze medals from Athens.

## ■ 4x400m relay

**CBP:** GREAT BRITAIN 2:58.22 Split '90

It will be a sensation if Britain do not win this title for the fourth successive time ... though Poland are building squad spirit through victory in last year's European U23 Championships and second place in last month's Goodwill Games.

## ■ Marathon

**CBP:** Martin Fiz (ESP) 2:10.31 Helsinki '94

WITH the fastest man in the world this year, Fabian Roncero, a reluctant recruit to the Spanish squad and worried about heat and humidity, few Britons will be betting against Richard Nerurkar taking a richly-earned place on the rostrum. The 34-year-old Bingley Harrier, winner of the 1993 World Marathon Cup, was fourth in the 1994 Europeans and fifth in the 1996 Olympics before a virus forced his late withdrawal from the Athens Worlds.

Mark Hudspeth has the experience from finishing third in the 1994 Commonwealth Games marathon but Dave Buzza's participation is "touch and go" after an Achilles injury.

## ■ 20km walk

**CBP:** Mikhail Shchennikov (RUS) 1:18:45 Helsinki '94

ILYA MARKOV, the 24-year-old Russian who was second in the Atlanta Olympics, will start as favourite after his Goodwill Games victory over world champion Daniel Garcia when reigning European champion Mikhail Shchennikov was fourth.

## ■ 50km walk

**CBP:** Hartwig Gauder (GDR) 3:40:55 Stuttgart '86

OLYMPIC and world champion Robert Korzeniowski is expected to continue his domination of the major occasions, though 28-year-old Spaniard Jesus Angel Garcia, second in Athens, will again be a major threat.

## European lists - Top ten men (as of August 6)

<b># 100</b>	10.08/0.7	Carlo Baccarini	ITA	1:45.57	Nico Melchiorri	GER	8:20.35	Luciano Di Pardo	ITA	5:89	Danny Ecker	GER	<b># DT</b>		
	10.12/1.7	Anninos Marcoulides	CYP	1:45.55	Andre Bucher	SUI	8:20.51	Andre Green	GER	5:92	Tim Lobinger	GER	68.89	Vigilius Alekna	LIT
	10.12/1.6	CHRISTIAN MALCOLM (GB)	GBR	<b># 1500</b>			8:20.73	Rafal Wojcik	POL	5:90	Maksim Tarasov	RUS	67.90	Vitaly Sidorov	UKR
	10.18/2.0	Alexandros Alexopoulos	GRC	3:32.17	Andres Diaz	ESP	8:23.13	Günther Weidinger	AUT	5:85	Yevgeniy Smirnyagin	RUS	67.18	Michael Möllerbeck	GER
	10.18/1.1	Stephane Gall	FRA	3:33.30	Vyacheslav Shabunin	RUS	8:23.22	Marcel Laros	NED	5:85	Vladim Stroganov	RUS	66.84	PERFIS WILKINS	GBR
	10.17/-1.4	DARREN CAMPBELL	GBR	3:33.84	Branko Zorko	CRO	<b># 110H</b>			5:83	Michael Stoll	GER	66.80	Lars Riedel	GER
	10.21/1.7	Christophe Cheval	FRA	3:33.82	Reyes Estevez	ESP	13.07/-1.4	Colin Jackson	GBR	5:81	Pavel Burlachenko	RUS	66.56	Attila Horvath	HUN
	10.21/0.8	Charalambos Papadimitriou	GRC	3:34.71	John Maycock	GBR	13.18/-1.4	Falk Balzer	GER	5:80	Sergey Bubka	UKR	66.10	Robert Fazekas	HUN
	10.22/1.4	Angelos Pavlakakis	GRC	3:35.30	TONY WHITEMAN	GBR	13.20/1.2	Robin Koning	NED	<b># LJ</b>			65.88	Jürgen Schult	GER
	10.23/2.0	Gabor Dobos	HUN	3:35.66	Rüdiger Stenzel	GER	13.25/1.1	TONY JARRETT	GBR	8.36/1.1	Kiri Sosunov	RUS	65.78	Vladimir Dubrovshchik	BLR
<b># 200</b>	20.35/-1.5	DOUG WALKER	GBR	3:35.71	Nadir Bosch	FRA	13.26/0.5	Florian Schwarhoff	GER	8.30/1.8	Kader Klouchi	FRA	65.47	Andreas Seelig	GER
	20.37/1.1	Patrick van Balkom	NED	3:35.78	Giuseppe D'Urso	ITA	13.30/-0.7	Mike Finner	GER	8.28/1.2	Carlos Castellanbranco	POR	<b># HT</b>		
	20.37/1.9	Prodromos Katsantonis	CYP	3:35.91	Rui Silva	POR	13.40/-0.4	Tomasz Soltanowski	POL	8.26/-0.6	Aleksandr Glavatskiy	BLR	89.82	Igor Astapkovich	BLR
	20.41/0.6	Christophe Cheval	FRA	13:04.10	Dieter Baumann	GER	13.41/0.1	Jerome Crews	GER	8.23A/0.2	Michael Loria	FRA	83.00	Balazs Kiss	HUN
	20.41/1.9	Georgios Panagiotopoulos	GRC	13:04.64	Alberto Garcia	ESP	13.48/2.0	Mauro Rossi	ITA	8.18/0.3	Bogdan Tarus	ROM	82.62	Sergey Kirmasov	RUS
	20.44/0.2	CHRISTIAN MALCOLM (GB)	GBR	13:06.20	Mohammed Mourhit	BEL	13.49/1.8	Jean-Marc Givra	FRA	8.17/2.0	Raul Fernandez	ESP	82.22	Hoiger Klose	GER
	20.48/1.0	DARREN CAMPBELL	GBR	13:08.44	Manuel Pancorbo	ESP	<b># 400H</b>			8.17/1.6	Aleksey Muskhin	RUS	81.44	Tibor Gecsek	HUN
	20.49/0.4	Anninos Marcoulides	CYP	13:09.63	Isaac Viciosa	ESP	48.06	Ruslan Mashchenko	RUS	8.16/1.7	Paolo Camossi	CZE	81.22	Adrian Annus	HUN
	20.55/0.9	Gabi Moen	NOR	13:15.67	Driss El Himer	MAR/FRA	48.36	Fabrizio Mori	ITA	8.16	Milan Kovar		81.21	Karsten Kobs	GER
	20.55/-1.5	DOUG TURNER	GBR	13:18.36	Mustapha Essaid	FRA	48.46	Stephane Diagana	FRA	<b># TJ</b>			81.11	Heinz Weis	GER
<b># 400</b>	44.37	MARK RICHARDSON	GBR	13:19.03	JON BROWN	GBR	48.83	Jiri Muszik	CZE	18.01/0.4	Jonathan Edwards	GBR	80.89	Vasily Sidorenko	RUS
	44.50	IAN THOMAS	GBR	13:20.82	Mark Carroll	IRL	49.04	Carlos Silva	POR	17.85/0.8	Denis Kapustin	RUS	80.71	Giles Dupray	FRA
	44.68	Solomon Wariso	GBR	13:21.12	Abdellah Behar	FRA	49.11	Vladislav Shiryayev	RUS	17.38/1.5	Charles Friedek	GER	<b># JT</b>		
	44.71	ROGER BLACK	GBR	<b># 10,000</b>			49.27	Zaharia Argudin	ROM	17.30/-0.6	Aleksandr Glavatskiy	BLR	90.88	Aki Parvainen	FIN
	45.30	Mark Hyttén	GBR	27:14.44	Fabian Roncero	ESP	49.29	Jimmy Coco	ITA	17.27/0.8	Andrey Kuranov	RUS	89.89	STEVE BACKLEY	GBR
	45.44	Robert Mackowiak	POL	27:15.76	Antonio Pinto	POR	49.33	Laurent Ollivier	ITA	17.24/0.7	Zsolt Czigler	HUN	89.21	Boris Henry	GER
	45.45	Sean Baldock	GBR	27:32.31	Dieter Baumann	GER	49.43	Steffen Kolb	GER	17.20/-1.7	Paolo Camossi	ITA	88.13	Konstantinos Gatsioudis	GRC
	45.46	Tomasz Czubak	POL	27:40.33	Domingos Castro	POR	<b># HJ</b>			17.20/1.6	Rogel Nachum	ISR	88.08	Raymond Hecht	GER
	45.51A	Stefan Bakosak	SVK	27:43.29	Bruno Toledo	ESP	2.33	Stefan Holm	SWE	17.18/0.8	Nikolay Plev	BUL	88.08	Peter Blank	GER
	45.57	Marc Foucan	FRA	27:47.33	Julio Rey	ESP	2.33	Artur Partyka	POL	17.14/1.3	Galin Georgiev	BUL	86.96	Juha Laukkanen	FIN
<b># 800</b>	1:44.17	Veikko Riedel	NOR	27:47.90	Jan Pessius	CZE	2.33	Martin Buss	GER	<b># SP</b>			85.67	MARK ROBERSON	GBR
	1:44.46	Giuseppe D'Urso	ITA	27:49.46	Robert Steflo	SVK	2.32	Dragutin Topic	YUG	21.77	Dragan Peric	YUG	85.67	Sergey Makarov	RUS
	1:44.72	Andrea Longo	ITA	27:49.61	Martin Fiz	ESP	2.32	Dimitrios Kokoris	GRC	21.00	Aleksandr Bagach	UKR	85.15	Patrik Bodan	SWE
	1:44.95	Nathan Kahan	BEL	27:49.71	Enrique Molina	ESP	2.31	Christian Rhoden	GER	20.90	Ari Harju	FIN	<b># Dec</b>		
	1:45.22	Lukas Vydra	CZE	8:15.24	Jim Svenoy	NOR	2.30	Elvir Krehm	BSH	20.85	Oliver-Sven Buder	GER	8672	Erii Nool	EST
	1:45.31	Giacomo Mazzoni	ITA	8:18.30	Angelo Carosi	ITA	2.30	Wolfgang Krelisig	GER	20.79	Mike Helven	FIN	8592	Tomasz Dworak	CZE
	1:45.32	James McIlroy	IRL	8:19.54	Giuseppe Maffei	ITA	2.30	Lambros Papaioannas	GRC	20.65	Paolo Del Soglio	ITA	8589	Roman Sebrla	CZE
	1:45.47	Gert-Jan Liefers	NED	8:19.75	Bousbaïlah Tahri	FRA	2.30	STEVE SMITH	GBR	20.60	Yury Belonogov	UKR	8573	Jon Amar Magnusson	ISL
				8:20.22	Marc Ostendep	GER	<b># PV</b>			20.47	Corrado Fantini	ITA	8566	Sebastian Chmura	POL
							6.00	Dmitriy Markov	BLR	20.37	Roman Vlasov	UKR	8526	Francisco J Benet	ESP
							5.97	Jean Galfione	FRA	20.31	Viktor Buzat	BLR	8414	Lev Lobodin	RUS
												8236	Klaus Isenheimer	GER	
												8231	Frank Busemann	GER	
												8214	Sebastian Levico	FRA	



**RESULTS!**

12 pages of the leading results from road, multi-terrain and cross country

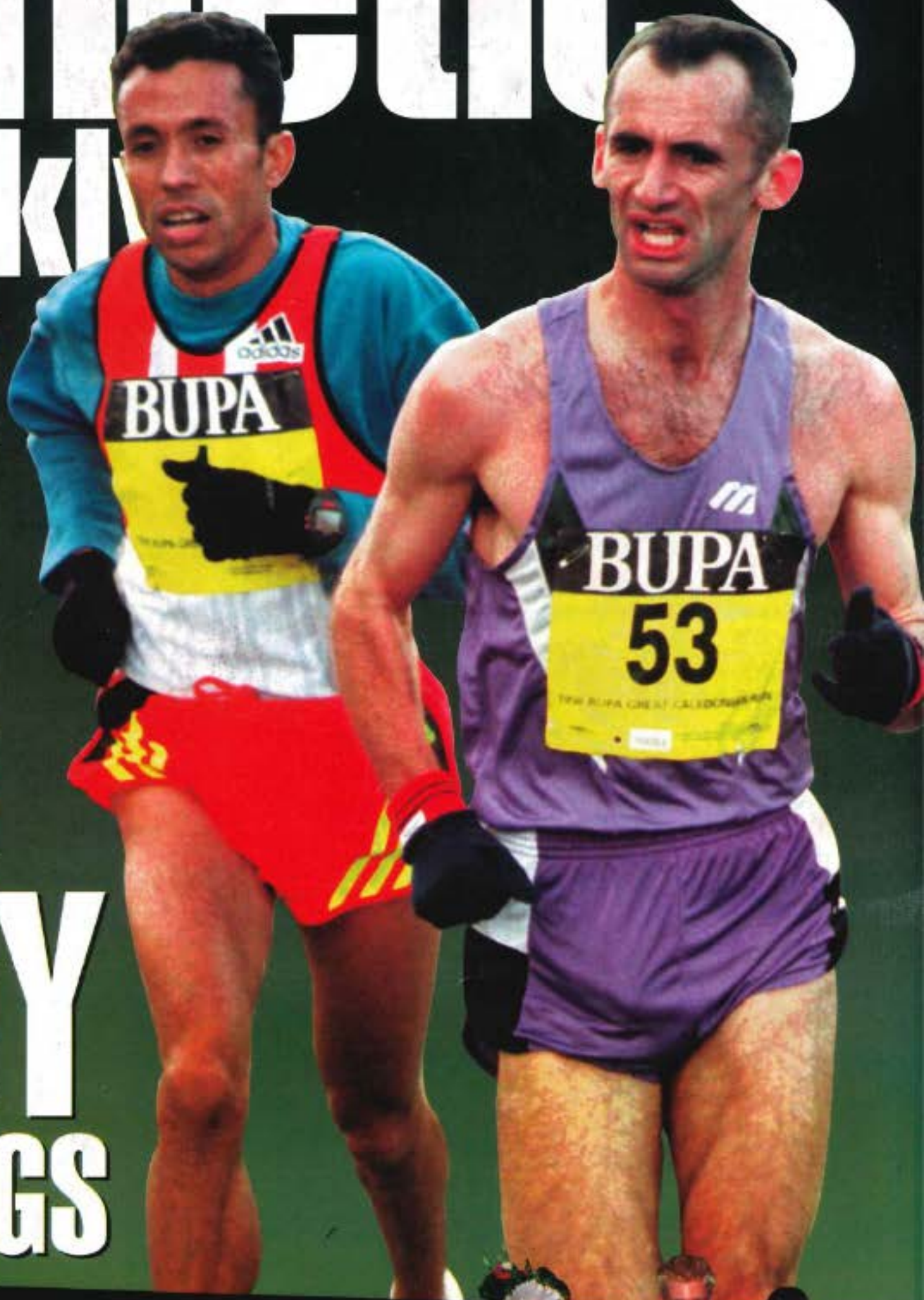
# Athletics Weekly



Tegla Loroupe and Mohammed Mourhit scored comfortable wins in the BUPA Great Caledonian Run



## EASY PICKINGS



October 21 1998 £1.50



9 770004 667073

## State of the Nation

Eight-page analysis of Britain's 1998 European Championships performance starts page 12





# State of the nations

## European Champs records

Men			
100	10.04	DARREN CAMPBELL	1998
200	20.11	JOHN REGIS	1990
400	44.52	IVAN THOMAS	1998
800	1:43.84	O Beyer (GDR)	1978
1500	3:35.27	F Caschio (ESP)	1994
5000	13:10.15	JACK BUCKNER	1986
10,000	27:30.99	M Vainio (FIN)	1978
Mar	2:10.54	G Bordin (ITA)	1986
3000SC	8:12.66	F Panetta (ITA)	1990
110H	13.02	COLIN JACKSON	1998
400H	47.48	H Schmid (FRG)	1982
HJ	2.35	S Hoen (NOR)	1994
PV	6.00	R Gataullin (RUS)	1994
LJ	8.41	R Emmiyan (URS)	1986
TJ	17.99	JONATHAN EDWARDS	1998
SP	22.22	W Gunthor (SUI)	1986
DT	67.20	W Schmidt (GDR)	1978
HT	86.74	Y Sedykh (URS)	1986
JT	89.72	STEVE BACKLEY	1990
Dec	8811	DALEY THOMPSON	1986
4x100	37.79	France	1990
4x400	2:58.22	GREAT BRITAIN	1990
20kmW	1:18.45	M Shchennikov (RUS)	1994
50kmW	3:40:55	H Gauder (GDR)	1986
Women			
100	10.73	C Arron (FRA)	1998
200	21.71	H Drechsler (GDR)	1986
400	48.15	M Koch (GDR)	1982
800	1:55.41	O Mineyeva (URS)	1982
1500	3:57.80	O Dvirna (URS)	1982
3000	8:30.28	S Ulmasova (URS)	1982
5000	15:06.50	S O'Sullivan (IRL)	1998
10,000	30:23.25	I Kristiansen (NOR)	1990
Mar	2:27:10	M Machado (POR)	1998
100H	12.38	Y Donkova (BUL)	1996
400H	53.32	M Stjepanova (URS)	1986
HJ	2.02	U Meyfarth (FRG)	1982
PV	4.31	A Balakhonova (UKR)	1998
		N Reiger-Humbert (GER)	1986
LJ	7.30	H Drechsler (GDR)	1990
TJ	14.89	A Biryukova (RUS)	1994
SP	21.69	V Pavlysh (UKR)	1998
DT	71.36	D Sachse (GDR)	1986
HT	71.17	M Melinte (ROM)	1998
JT	77.44	FATIMA WHITBREAD	1986
Hep	6717	A Behmer (GDR)	1986
4x100	41.68	East Germany	1990
4x400	3:16.87	East Germany	1986
10kmW	42:37	S Essayah (FIN)	1994



Fatima Whitbread: the only British woman to hold a CBP

### Key in the following tables:

- Indicates no GBR competitor in event.  
 \* indicates one GBR competitor in event.  
 \*\* indicates two GBR competitors in event.  
 + indicates one dnf.  
 d indicates one disqualified.  
 n indicates one no-jump.  
 Points awarded: eight for first down to one for eighth in an athletic final

**E**XCLUSIVE research into the quality of the last four European Championships proves the old days really were the good ones in most events.

The theory was that the fragmentation of the Soviet Union into nine nations – and of Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia into seven more – would flood the continent with more quality virtually as a matter of course.

The fear was it would make medal winning much more difficult for Britons.

The fact is standards now are not noticeably higher than they were 12 years ago even though

*Your definitive guide to how good those Great Britain performances in Budapest really were and whether the rest of Europe is getting better*

Words: Trevor Frecknall Pictures: Mark Shearman

Budapest was blessed with eight championship best performances, including Christine Arron's fabulous European 100 metres record. And, of course, there were two more events for women, the pole vault and hammer.

But closer scrutiny proves an increase in quantity does not automatically lead to an improvement in quality. For the purposes of this survey, we have put the Soviet Union (URS),

Czechoslovakia (TCH) and Yugoslavia (YUG) back together again – with apologies to medal winners such as Erki Nool and Brigita Bukovec who have generated much

pride in their new independent nations – but we have used a united Germany (GER) to compare the performances at the championships of 1986, 1990, 1994 and 1998.

Read on ... and discover how changes on the political scene, improvements in equipment and wider use of scientific support in an increasing number of countries have not necessarily resulted in better performances in track and field.

## WHERE THE MEDALS HAVE GONE

Men 1986				1990				1994				1998			
Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze
100	GBR	GER	FRA	GBR	FRA	GBR	GBR	GBR	NOR	URS	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR
200	URS	GER	URS	GBR	FRA	GBR	NOR	URS	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR
400	GBR	GER	GER	GBR	GER	GER	GBR	GBR	SUI	GBR	POL	POL	GBR	GBR	GBR
800	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	POL	ITA	NOR	ESP	ESP	YUG	ESP	POR	ESP	TCH	ESP
1500	GBR	GBR	NED	GER	ITA	POR	ESP	ESP	YUG	ESP	ESP	POR	ESP	IRL	ESP
5000	GBR	ITA	GBR	ITA	GBR	POL	GER	GBR	ESP	ESP	ESP	IRL	ESP	IRL	ESP
10,000	ITA	ITA	ITA	ITA	NOR	ITA	ESP	BEL	GER	POR	GER	GER	GER	GER	GER
Mar	ITA	ITA	GER	ITA	ITA	FRA	ESP	ESP	ESP	ITA	ITA	ITA	ITA	ITA	ITA
3000SC	GER	ITA	GER	ITA	GBR	ITA	ITA	ITA	BEL	GER	ITA	NOR	ITA	NOR	ITA
110H	FRA	FIN	ESP	GBR	GBR	GER	GBR	GER	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR	GBR
400H	GER	URS	SWE	GBR	SWE	SWE	URS	SWE	FRA	POL	URS	ITA	URS	ITA	URS
HJ	URS	URS	FRA	YUG	URS	BUL	NOR	POL	GBR	POL	GBR	URS	GBR	URS	GBR
PV	URS	URS	FRA	URS	URS	AUT	URS	URS	FRA	URS	GBR	URS	GBR	URS	GBR
LJ	URS	URS	ITA	GER	ESP	YUG	BUL	TCH	GRE	URS	ROM	BUL	URS	ROM	BUL
TJ	BUL	URS	URS	URS	BUL	URS	URS	FRA	URS	GBR	URS	BUL	URS	GBR	URS
SP	SUI	GER	GER	GER	GER	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS
DT	URS	URS	URS	GER	NED	GER	URS	URS	URS	GER	GER	URS	GER	GER	URS
HT	URS	URS	URS	URS	HUN	URS	URS	URS	URS	GER	HUN	HUN	GER	HUN	GER
JT	GER	GER	URS	GBR	URS	SWE	GBR	FIN	TCH	GBR	GBR	GER	GBR	GBR	GER
Dec	GBR	GER	GER	FRA	HUN	GER	FRA	SWE	URS	URS	FIN	URS	URS	FIN	URS
4x100	URS	GER	GBR	FRA	GBR	ITA	FRA	URS	ITA	GBR	FRA	POL	GBR	FRA	POL
4x400	GBR	GER	URS	GBR	GER	GER	GBR	FRA	URS	GBR	POL	ESP	GBR	POL	ESP
20kmW	TCH	ITA	ESP	TCH	ESP	FRA	URS	URS	ESP	URS	URS	ESP	URS	URS	ESP
50kmW	GER	URS	URS	URS	GER	GER	URS	FRA	ITA	POL	FIN	URS	URS	FIN	URS

Women 1986				1990				1994				1998			
Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze
100	GER	BUL	NED	GER	GER	GER	URS	URS	GER	FRA	URS	GRE	URS	URS	GRE
200	GER	FRA	GER	GER	GER	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS
400	GER	URS	GER	GER	GER	FRA	FRA	URS	GBR	GER	TCH	URS	URS	URS	URS
800	URS	GER	URS	GER	GER	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	SWE	GER	URS	URS	URS
1500	URS	URS	ROM	YUG	GER	SUI	URS	GBR	URS	URS	POR	SUI	URS	URS	URS
3/5000	URS	ROM	GBR	GBR	URS	ITA	IRL	GBR	ROM	IRL	ROM	ESP	URS	URS	URS
10,000	NOR	URS	GER	URS	GER	FRA	POR	POR	FRA	IRL	POR	ROM	URS	URS	URS
Mar	POR	ITA	URS	POR	URS	FRA	POR	ITA	ROM	POR	URS	ITA	URS	URS	URS
100H	BUL	GER	BUL	FRA	GER	URS	BUL	URS	BUL	BUL	YUG	URS	URS	URS	URS
400H	URS	GER	GER	URS	SUI	SWE	GBR	GER	URS	ROM	URS	GER	URS	URS	URS
HJ	BUL	BUL	URS	GER	YUG	URS	YUG	URS	URS	ROM	POL	GER	URS	URS	URS
PV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	URS	GER	GER	URS	URS	URS
LJ	GER	URS	GER	GER	ROM	GER	GER	URS	ITA	GER	ITA	URS	URS	URS	URS
TJ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	URS	URS	URS	BUL	URS	URS	URS
SP	GER	GER	URS	GER	URS	GER	URS	GER	BUL	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS	URS
DT	GER	BUL	GER	GER	URS	GER	GER	URS	NOR	GER	URS	ROM	URS	URS	URS
HT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ROM	URS	GER	URS	URS	URS
JT	GBR	GER	GER	FIN	GER	GER	NOR	GER	ROM	GER	URS	FIN	URS	URS	URS
Hep	GER	URS	GBR	GER	GER	GER	GER	HUN	POL	GBR	POL	URS	URS	URS	URS
4x100	GER	BUL	URS	GER	GER	GBR	GER	URS	BUL	FRA	GER	URS	URS	URS	URS
4x400	GER	GER	POL	GER	URS	GBR	FRA	URS	GER	GER	URS	GBR	URS	URS	URS
10kmW	ESP	SWE	SWE	ITA	URS	URS	FIN	ITA	URS	ITA	ITA	POR	URS	URS	URS



## WINNERS AND BEST BRITS

Event	1986 Stuttgart	1990 Split	1994 Helsinki	1998 Budapest
SP	W Gunthor (SUI) 22.22 no entrant	U Timmermann (GER) 21.32 dnq Paul Edwards 18.66	A Klimenko (URS) 20.78 dnq Paul Edwards 18.54	A Bagach (URS) 21.17 dnq Shaun Pickering 17.80
DT	R Ubartas (URS) 67.08 dnq Paul Mardle 58.08	J Schult (GER) 64.58 dnq Abi Ekoku 53.80	V Dubrovchik (URS) 64.78 dnq Robert Weir 57.18	L Riedel (GER) 67.07 8 Robert Weir 61.92
HT	Y Sedykh (URS) 86.74 dnq David Smith 73.58	I Astapkovich (URS) 84.14 11 Paul Head 72.68	V Sidorenko (URS) 81.10 no entrant	T Gecsek (HUN) 82.87 no entrant
JT	K Tafelmeier (FRG) 84.76 8 Mick Hill 77.34	STEVE BACKLEY 87.30 "	STEVE BACKLEY 85.20 "	STEVE BACKLEY 89.72 "
<b>Women</b>				
SP	H Krieger (GER) 21.10 14 Judy Oakes 17.85	A Kumbnuss (GER) 20.38 9 Myrtle Auger 17.77	V Pavlysh (URS) 19.61 dnq Myrtle Auger 16.77	V Pavlysh (URS) 21.69 no entrant
DT	D Sachse (GDR) 71.36 12 Verissa Head 52.04	I Wyludda (GER) 68.46 dnq Jacqui McKernan 48.12	I Wyludda (GER) 68.72 dnq Jacqui McKernan 57.56	F Dietzsch (GER) 67.49 dnq Shelley Drew 53.13
HT	no competition	no competition	no competition	M Melinte (ROM) 71.17 11 Lorraine Shaw 58.19
JT	FATIMA WHITBREAD 76.32 12 Tessa Sanderson 57.56	P Alafranti (FIN) 67.68 12 Tessa Sanderson 57.56	T Hattestad (FIN) 68.00 dnq Sharon Gibson 53.82	T Damaske (GER) 69.10 no entrant

## FINAL FLUCTUATIONS

THESE are the average performances of the top eight finishers in each event at the last four European Championships:

Men	1986	1990	1994	1998
SP	20.69	20.53	19.70	20.53
DT	65.43	63.51	63.49	64.87
HT	81.07	78.36	77.81	79.44
JT	81.24	82.32	81.65	85.61
Women	1986	1990	1994	1998
SP	20.21	19.55	19.15	19.18
DT	65.16	65.29	62.88	64.68
HT	nc	nc	nc	65.24
JT	66.69	64.06	62.71	63.73

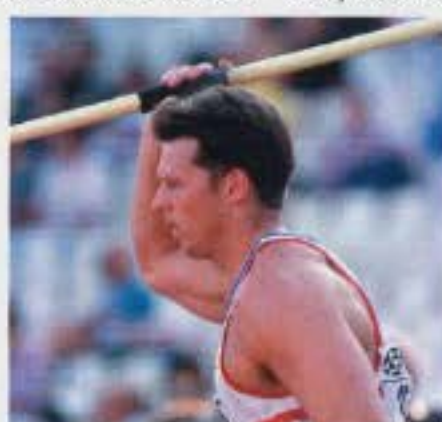
## ...AND THE BRITS

THESE are the average performances of the British throwers at the last four European Championships, irrespective of whether they reached the finals. Note how the number of men qualifying to compete has grown in shot and discus while our ability to produce women of sufficient quality has diminished.

Men	1986	1990	1994	1998
SP	-	18.66*	18.54*	8.90**A
DT	57.02**	53.80*	57.18*	58.02
HT	73.58*	72.68*	-	-
JT	77.25**	80.43	79.95	86.93
Women	1986	1990	1994	1998
SP	17.11**	17.77*	16.46**	-
DT	52.04*	48.12*	57.56*	53.13*
HT	nc	nc	nc	57.94**
JT	67.66**	56.33	52.54**	-



Home winner: Tibor Gecsek



Three titles: Steve Backley



So close: Lars Riedel

## HOW THE MEN'S POINTS ADD UP

	1986	BUL	ESP	FIN	FRA	GBR	GER	GRE	HUN	IRL	ISL	ITA	NED	NOR	POL	ROM	SUI	SWE	TCH	URS	YUG
SP	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	5	-	4	-	-	8	-	-	-	2
DT	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	5	21	-	-
HT	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	-
JT	-	-	-	5	-	1	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	2	-
<b>1990</b>																					
SP	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	7	-
DT	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	1	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	-
HT	7	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	7	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-
JT	-	-	-	5	2	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	10	-
<b>1994</b>																					
SP	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	3
DT	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	4	5	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	18	-
HT	-	-	-	2	-	-	6	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-
JT	-	-	-	7	-	-	11	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	1	-
<b>1998</b>																					
SP	-	2	3	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	5
DT	-	-	-	-	-	1	17	-	5	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
HT	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	3	16	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	2	-
JT	-	-	-	5	-	18	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
<b>Overall '86-98</b>																					
SP	-	2	12	-	-	-	45	-	-	-	2	10	-	13	-	-	8	-	-	42	10
DT	-	-	-	-	-	1	42	-	10	5	-	4	10	7	-	1	-	-	7	57	-
HT	7	-	-	2	-	-	38	3	27	-	-	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	61	-
JT	-	-	-	22	2	43	30	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	6	26	2

## HOW THE WOMEN'S POINTS ADD UP

	1986	BEL	BUL	FIN	FRA	GBR	GER	GRE	HUN	ITA	NED	NOR	POL	ROM	URS
SP	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9
DT	-	11	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
JT	-	-	5	-	-	8	15	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
<b>1990</b>															
SP	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
DT	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
JT	-	2	8	-	-	-	21	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>1994</b>															
SP	-	6	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
DT	2	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	6	-	5	12	-
JT	-	1	-	-	-	-	15	-	2	-	8	-	6	4	-
<b>1998</b>															
SP	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	27
DT	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	6	-	-	-	-	6	13	-
HT	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	4	-	-	-	2	8	11
JT	-	-	-	10	-	-	11	-	1	2	-	5	-	-	7
<b>Overall 1986-1998</b>															
SP	-	6	-	-	-	-	72	-	-	-	2	-	4	1	59
DT	2	11	-	-	-	-	63	6	-	-	6	1	13	42	-
HT	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	4	-	-	2	8	11	-
JT	-	3	23	-	-	8	62	1	7	2	-	13	4	6	15

## VERDICT

THESE are the events that have suffered most from the end of the institutional methods of the former East Germany and Soviet Union. But political and maybe scientific changes have not stopped athletes from those two areas continuing to dominate the shot, discus and (except for Hungarians thrilling their home crowd this year) the hammer, albeit with distances that cry out for the IAAF to introduce an entirely new criteria for world records. Opponents of this move would point to the performances in Budapest bridging the huge gap that suddenly appeared between 1986 and 1990 (Lars Riedel's discus got to within a centimetre of Romas Ubartas's of 1986).

Britain's heroics have all been in the javelin, starting with Fatima Whitbread in the '80s and continued by Steve Backley's hat-trick of gold medals.



# Athletics Weekly

A photograph of pole vaulter Emma George in a yellow and blue Reebok singlet and shorts, holding a pole vault pole and raising her right fist in celebration. The background is a blurred stadium at night.

**10-PAGE  
1999 WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
PREVIEW**

## Emma George in pole position

**Inside this issue:**

- U15/U17 Champs
- BAL Gold Cup Final
- Jubilee Cup Final

August 18 1999 £1.80

33>



*Leading results from road, track & field and multi-terrain*



67.46	Andy Bloom	USA
	Knoxville	9 Apr
67.46	Virgilijus Alekna	LIT
	Zurich	11 Aug
67.38	Frantz Kruger	RSA
	Cape Town	26 Mar
67.00	Michael Möllenbeck	GER
	Jena	5 June
66.95	Aleksander Tammert	EST
	Denton	8 May
66.76	Doug Reynolds	USA
	Salinas	25 May
66.03	Pieter Van Der Kruk	NED
	Leiden	4 Aug

## ■ Hammer

**1997 medallists:** 1 H Weis (GER) 81.78; 2 A Skvaruk (UKR) 81.46; 3 V Sidorenko (RUS) 80.76  
**World record:** Yuriy Sedykh (URS) 86.74, Stuttgart 1986

TOUGH qualifying standards mean Britain doesn't have a representative in this event in Seville.

Karsten Kobs of Germany leads the rankings, but Tibor Gécsek of Hungary fills the next five places on the 1999 world list.  
**Dark horse:** Loris Paoluzzi of Italy.

## 1999 top 10

82.78	Karsten Kobs	GER
	Dortmund	26 June
82.57	Tibor Gécsek	HUN
	Clermont-Ferrand	13 May
81.73	Adrián Annus	HUN
	Nitra	7 Aug
80.98	Loris Paoluzzi	ITA
	Pescara	4 July
80.75	Andrey Skvaruk	UKR
	Belaya Tserkov	25 July
80.51	Ilya Kononov	RUS
	Tula	31 July
80.40	Zsolt Németh	HUN
	Majorca	10 July
80.35	Lance Deal	USA
	Eugene	25 June
80.00	Vladislav Piskunov	UKR
	Kyiv	14 May
79.95	Vasiliy Sidorenko	RUS
	Togliatti	15 May

## ■ Javelin

**1997 medallists:** 1 M Corbett (RSA) 88.40; 2 STEVE BACKLEY 86.80; 3 K Gatsioudis (GRE) 86.64  
**World record:** Jan Zelezny (CZE) 98.48, Jena 1996

JAN ZELEZNY returns from a career-threatening shoulder injury to get in the mix in what

will be one of the most exciting and open events of the world championships.

The world record-holder said at Crystal Palace recently: "I feel very sore. My back is stiff but my shoulder is okay and repaired. I'm happy."

"Seville will be tough and everyone will be in with a chance." The most recent form guide was at Zurich, where Kostas Gatsioudis of Greece won with 89.53.  
**Dark horse:** Marius Corbett of South Africa.

## 1999 top 10

93.09	Aki Parviainen	FIN
	Kuortane	26 June
89.93	Sergey Makarov	RUS
	Athens	16 June
89.57	Kostas Gatsioudis	GRE
	Athens	16 June
89.06	Jan Zelezny	CZE
	Paris	21 July
88.67	Raymond Hecht	GER
	Jena	05 June
88.62	Boris Henry	GER
	Jena	05 June
87.88	Matti Närhi	FIN
	Kuortane	26 June
87.59	STEVE BACKLEY	
	Birmingham	25 July
87.17A	Marius Corbett	RSA
	Pietersburg	13 Mar
87.11	Peter Blank	GER
	Rehlingen	24 May

## ■ 20/50km walk

**1997 medallists:** 20km: 1 D Garcia (MEX) 1:21.43; 2 M Schennikov (RUS) 1:21.53; 3 M Khmelnsky (BLR) 1:22.01. 50km: 1 R Korzeniowski (POL) 3:44.46; 2 J Garcia (ESP) 3:44.59; 3 M Rodriguez (MEX) 3:48.30

ANYONE who saw the men's walk at the recent European Junior Championships will never yawn again at the thought of a walking race.

It produced arguably the most exciting event of the championships as a local Latvian charged his way to a thrilling victory.

The front page of the Latvian daily newspapers carried pictures of his wild eyed celebration, while similar emotion was felt at last year's Commonwealth Games when Malaysia's Saravanan took gold when leader Craig Barratt from New Zealand collapsed with 1km to go.

## 1999 top five

20km	
1:17:46	Julio Rene Martinez GUA
	Eisenhüttenstadt 8 May
1:17:56	Alejandro LMartinez GUA
	Eisenhüttenstadt May
1:18:39	Robert Korzeniowski POL
	Turku 22 May
1:18:50	Ilya Markov RUS
	Turku 22 May
1:19:00	Joel Sánchez MEX
	Eisenhüttenstadt 8 May

## ■ Decathlon

**1997 medallists:** 1 T Dvorak (CZE) 8837; 2 E Hamalainen (FIN) 8730; 3 F Busemann (GER) 8652  
**World record:** Tomas Dvorak (CZE) 8994, Prague 1999

TOMAS DVORAK of the Czech Republic broke Dan O'Brien's world record earlier this season and will be the favourite in Seville.

Dean Macey will take on his under-23 rivals Chiel Warners and Attila Zsivotsky, but they are unlikely to be fighting for gold as they were in Gothenburg.

**Dark horse:** Erki Nool of Estonia.

## 1999 top 10

8994	Tomás Dvorák	CZE
	Prague	4 July
8527	Roman Sebrle	CZE
	Prague	4 July
8463	Tom Pappas	USA
	Tucson	18 Mar
8460	Erki Nool	EST
	Götzis	30 May
8427	Lev Lobodin	RUS
	Götzis	30 May
8414	Frank Busemann	GER
	Ratingen	18 July
8379	Attila Zsivotsky	HUN
	Göteborg	30 July
8363	Chiel Warners	NED
	Götzis	30 May
8357	Francisco Javier Benet	ESP
	Castello Make	June
8350	Chris Huffins	USA
	Eugene	25 June

## ■ 4x100

**1997 medallists:** 1 Canada 37.86; 2 Nigeria 38.07; 3 Great Britain (DARREN BRAITHWAITE, DARREN CAMPBELL, DOUG WALKER, JULIAN GOLDING)  
**World record:** United States 37.40, Barcelona 1992/Stuttgart 1993

JASON GARDENER, Dwain Chambers and Darren Campbell gave some fighting talk at the recent AAA Championships when they boldly proclaimed: "We can beat the Americans."

The US squad, Greene aside, maybe isn't as strong as in previous years.

Their trial was won by Dennis Mitchell, followed by Brian Lewis and Tim Montgomery, who were both outside 10 seconds.

In fact, Britain might have a greater chance of gold in this event than the traditionally strong 4x400m.

The Canadian team will be heavily bolstered by Olympic champion Donovan Bailey, who will compete in this event only and not in the individual 100m sprint.

**Dark horse:** Brazil.



Decathlon favourite: Tomas Dvorak



# Athletics Weekly

Win travel prizes worth  
£5000

## Inside:

- The facts about the Wembley fiasco
- Major fixtures for the year 2000
- U11 girls' rankings

# Aki Parviainen

World champ continuing a Finnish tradition

*Leading road, cross country and multi-terrain results*

January 5 2000 £1.80





## Henry Rono (Kenya)

RONO's was a great talent that never flourished in the Olympic arena. On the track his greatest year was 1978. He won the Commonwealth 5000m in 13:23.0, over six seconds ahead of the silver medallist. In the space of 80 days he travelled the world setting world records at 3000m steeplechase, 3000, 5000 and 10,000m.

Aman of the Nandi Hills, Rono was the first man to set world flat and steeplechase records at 3000m. He also won the World Cup steeplechase in 1979.

## Viktor Saneyev (USSR)

SANEYEV is one of the all-time greats of triple jumping. He won three Olympic titles – Mexico City, Munich and Montreal – and missed a fourth (in Moscow) by just 11 centimetres. In 1968 in Mexico City he had great battles with Prudencio (Brazil) and Gentile (Italy) – all three broke the world record in the competition – before emerging the victor with a new world best of 17.39m. The Russian won two European gold and two silver medals in four appearances between 1969 and 1978. He set one further record of 17.44m in 1972.

## Yuriy Sedykh (USSR)

A MAN in the true Russian tradition of hammer throwing, Sedykh is the all-time great of the event. He won the Olympic title in Montreal in 1976 with an Olympic record of 77.52m. Four years later in Moscow he kept his title with a world record throw of 81.80m. He missed the 1984 Games in Los Angeles through the East European boycott, returned in Seoul in 1988 but finished second to his great rival, Sergey Litvinov. He won two World Championships silver medals behind Litvinov before winning the title in Tokyo in 1991.

Sedykh won four European titles. His first world record came in 1980 when in a great tussle with

Juri Tamm the record was broken three times, Sedykh emerging as the winner with 80.64m. Sedykh went on to set four more world records ending with 86.74m in his final European Championship win in Stuttgart. Thirteen years on it is still the record today.

## Lasse Viren (Finland)

IN 1971, in Helsinki, Juha Vaatainen revived Finnish distance-running traditions by achieving a European double at 5000 and 10,000m. Almost immediately the mantle was taken up by Lasse Viren who went to Munich and achieved the Olympic double, last achieved by Kuts 16 years before. In the 10,000m he achieved a world record of 27:38.35. Running almost desultorily for the next four years no one expected the great Finnish runner to again win the two distance track races but he did, a feat never before accomplished. He tried to add to this extraordinary accomplishment (and to emulate Zatopek) but finished fifth in the marathon in 2:13:10.8. He ran in his third Olympics in 1980, finishing fifth in the 10,000m.

Viren set one 5000m world record (13:16.4) in 1972 which stood for six days before it was broken by Emil Puttemans. His 1972 Olympic run was his only 10,000m world record.

## John Walker (New Zealand)

A LANDMARK athlete, being the first man to run the mile in under three minutes – 50 seconds with 3:49.4 in Gothenburg in 1975, Walker won the Olympic Games 1500m title in Montreal. He first came to the fore in 1974 in Perth, running second to Filbert Bayi of Tanzania – the latter setting a world record of 3:32.2 with Walker just 3/10ths behind.

Walker (along with Rod Dixon and Dick Quax) led in the middle-distance renaissance that would culminate with the performances of Coe, Cram, Ovett and Aouita in the 80s.



Landmark miler: John Walker

## WOMEN

## Rosie Ackermann (GDR)

IN 1974 Ackermann (under her maiden name Witschas) set her first world high jump record of 1.94m and went on to win the European championship that year in Rome (defeating not only the local favourite Sara Simeoni but the Italian crowd as well). Her Olympic triumph came in Montreal where she again beat the Italian with an Olympic record of 1.93m.

A year later in the historical splendour of Berlin's Olympic stadium she made history by becoming the first woman to clear two metres. It was her last world record.

In 1978 she had another confrontation with Simeoni at the Prague Europeans and this time had to be content with second place as the Italian equalled her world record of 2.01. She began to be plagued by injury and finished fourth in the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.

## Ruth Fuchs (GDR)

FUCHS won two Olympic titles, in 1972 in Munich and 1976, in Montreal, setting Olympic javelin records in both competitions. She also won two European titles, in Rome in 1974 and Prague in 1978.

She set six world records between 1972 (65.06m in Potsdam) and 1980 (69.96m in Split). In addition she won two World Cup competitions in 1977 and 1979.

## Tatyana Kazankina (USSR)

KAZANKINA is one of the all-time greats of distance running. She won three Olympic titles. In Montreal in 1976 she won an 800/1500m double setting a world record of 1:54.94 in the former. Four years later she retained her 1500m title in Moscow with an Olympic record of 3:56.56. She won the inaugural World Cup 1500m in Dusseldorf in 1977.

In 1976 she became the first woman to beat the four-minute 1500m 'barrier' with 3:56.0. She set two more world records in 1980, culminating in 3:52.47 at the Zurich Weltklasse meeting. Her world record in Montreal was her only one at 800m. Her world record at 1500m stood for 13 years and is still a European record.

## Irina Kirszenstein-Szewinska (Poland)

IT is difficult to know into which decade to place the great Irina Szewinska. Her Olympic medal tally began in 1964 with a silver in the long jump behind Mary Rand. Four years later in Mexico City she won 200m gold and 100m bronze.

At Munich in 1972 she won bronze at 200m. In 1976 she returned again to the Olympic arena in Montreal to win the 400m. In addition she won gold in the 4x100m relay in Tokyo. All in all her Olympic tally is three gold, one silver and two bronze, won in five events at four Olympic Games.

TRAVEL  
TRANSPORT  
ACCOMMODATION

HERE.  
THERE.  
EVERYWHERE.



0121 456 1976

email [wgt sport@btconnect.com](mailto:wgt sport@btconnect.com)

a travel service dedicated to the sport of athletics



# Athletics Weekly



Last chance  
to win travel  
prizes worth  
£5000

## Inside:

- Chambers to face Greene at the NIA
- Favourites pipped in Reebok Challenge
- Norman puts South Africa back on track

# Chris Rawlinson

Hurdler sets his heart on an Olympic medal

*Leading road, cross country and multi-terrain results*

January 19 2000 £1.80





# Aboriginals activists threaten Games demo

**A**N issue more likely to affect the Games than shark attacks (see last week's AW) is that of the treatment of Aboriginal people within Australia.

Demonstrations by the country's indigenous people are almost certain to take place at an Olympics which is seen as an ideal opportunity to highlight the human rights abuses that are alleged to have taken place.

Aboriginal leaders plan to take the media on tours of their communities in an effort to show the world their poor living conditions. "We don't have to take them out of Sydney to show them Third World conditions," an Aboriginal spokesperson said.

Radical aboriginal activists have threatened to stage protests around the Olympic torch relay as it passes through indigenous communities.

The torch will be tracked by the media during its 100-day journey around Australia but cannot be



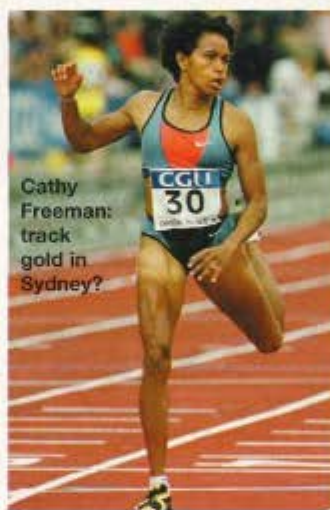
*Continuing our series that sets the scene for the Sydney Olympics... we report on some of the controversial issues surrounding the build-up Down Under*

by Jason Henderson

guarded like the Olympic site.

Aboriginal athlete Nova-Peris-Kneebone will be the first Australian to run with the torch at Uluru on June 8, but the Sydney Games organisers (SOCOG) have ignored recommendations from an IOC working group that they should have an Aboriginal representative on its board.

It is suspected that many of the media in Sydney will have the sole brief of covering contentious race issues, such as the plight of the Aboriginals. Let's hope those same journalists are in the stadium when Cathy Freeman, who is arguably Australia's strongest chance of a track medal – and an Aboriginal herself, gets down on her marks.



Cathy Freeman: track gold in Sydney?

## Row breaks out over oxygen chamber

A DISPUTE has broken out between Jacques Rogge, the vice-president of the International Olympic Committee's medical commission, and the Australian Institute of Sport over the use of special oxygen chambers developed to boost an athlete's endurance.

Rogge says the idea is 'pushing training too far'. But the Institute has defended the use of its portable nitrogen tents and special three-bedroom facility known as the

'Altitude House' – which is based in Canberra.

The chamber is supposed to simulate living at altitude and Rogge says he can understand that Australians want to use such chambers, given the lack of mountains in the country.

"What I don't like is that people have to go into chambers," he said. "That's not my idea of sport. We know now that athletes live almost every night in the chambers. I don't

like the idea.

"It is pushing training and preparation too far."

Athletes who live and train at high altitudes are thought to have an advantage in endurance events because their bodies are used to performing with less oxygen.

Rogge's worry is that the body produces more red blood cells when it is deprived of oxygen. But if it produces too many it is left vulnerable to blood clots.

## Human guinea pigs take EPO

ATHLETES in Australia will be paid up to £300 to take the performance-enhancing drug EPO in an effort to find a test for the drug before the Games begin.

After answering an advert in an Australian newspaper, about 120 athletes will be chosen to receive either the drug or a placebo for six to 10 weeks. Throughout this period they will train under the direction of a coach from the Australian Institute of Sport.

Since EPO has been linked with the death of elite European cyclists, only very small doses will be given to the guinea pig athletes.

The volunteers will not, of course, be able to compete for 14 weeks while the drug is in their system.

## Vehicle ban in city centre

SYDNEY city centre will be pedestrianised overnight to accommodate the Olympics.

Plans involve banning parking and turning traffic lanes into footpaths – a strategy that the Olympic Roads and Transport Authority hope will help the city cope with the extra 1.5 million visitors and ensure that it is a pleasant place for them to visit.

The crowds are likely to peak in the evenings when spectators converge on the city, especially the harbour, after attending sporting events.

Big screens and food stalls will be temporarily erected in the busiest spots – the Domain, Darling Harbour and The Rocks.

## BRIEFS

### Dress rehearsal fee

SPECTATORS will be charged as much as £80 to watch the dress rehearsal for the Games opening ceremony, but it will be far from the 'real thing'.

It will be strictly a working session, with constant interruptions to make adjustments likely. There will be no athletes, no Olympic flame, no raising of the flag – and there will be a media black out on the entire event.

Not that there would seem to be much left to report on.

### Olympic juice

AUSTRALIAN fruit growers have been squeezed out of a deal to supply juice to the Sydney Olympics, Australian farmers have said.

Games organisers plan to use juice concentrate, imported from South America or China, rather than fresh Australian juice.

### Athletics v swimming

AS mentioned before in this column, track and field faces the rare experience of not being treated as the premier Olympic sport by its host.

Swimming could usurp athletics as the No.1 attraction, if only by the Australians themselves. As we know, no sport produces athletes as exciting or interesting as athletics.

But Australia's top swimming hope has at least one, we have to admit, interesting feature. Ian Thorpe, has – wait for it – size 17 feet. "It's amazing," says his coach. "They act like floggers."

### Pidgeon has potential

THE world record-holder for the men's hammer, Yuriy Sedykh, says that British hammer thrower Liz Pidgeon has the ability to win an Olympic medal, according to an Essex newspaper.

"This year's Games will be the first to stage the hammer, pole vault and triple jump for women," she said. "Which makes the event new and exciting."

"You don't have to be strong or huge to throw a long way. It is a speed event, in which you have good technique and skill. I want to be one of the people who push those limits out further and further."

### Love thy neighbour

SYDNEY's Catholics are being asked to open their homes to visitors during the Olympics in an effort to ease the predicted accommodation nightmare.

The city's churches have circulated newsletters since Christmas, urging churchgoers "to exercise generosity and leadership, while living out the Gospel values of loving thy neighbour and welcoming the visitor."



# Athletics Weekly

## Inside:

- World bests by Johnson and Tergat
- Nerurkar retires
- Kibowen profiled

## Christian Malcolm

**Euro champ still working to fulfil his potential**

*11 pages of results including Keith Cullen's 14:08 Bath 5km victory*

March 29 2000 £1.80





## OVERSEAS

## TRACK &amp; FIELD

## CUBA

Mar 3-4, Santiago de Cuba: Cuban Javelin & Multi-Event Championships. JT: (a) 1, González 82.33; 2, Ripondeaux 80.18; Dec: (a/b) Duany 81.04 (10.64w, 7.90w, 13.82, 2.09, 49.53, 14.36, 40.91, 4.10, 64.29, 4:24.77); W JT: (b) 1, Menéndez 64.84; 2, Bisset 64.05; 3, López 60.55; 4, La Montana 60.20; 5, Rivero 59.03.

## INDIA

Mar 3, Hissar: SP/DT: Shakti Singh 19.08/57.34; HT: Alisevich BLR 70.84; W 100: Misty 11.40; 400: Beernamol 52.82; 1500: Rani 4:10.40; HT: K. Jebeshori Devi 56.56 rec; Mar 15-18, Lucknow: SP: (a) 1, Bahadur Singh 19.64; 2, Shakti Singh 19.18; DT: Kumar 59.55; JT: (a) Bishnoi 78.85; W 100: (a) Misty 11.39 eq rec; 400: (a) Beernamol 52.08; 1500: (a) Rani 4:10.1; 100H: (1.3) Biswal 13.57 rec; DT: Neelam Singh 57.25.

## NEW ZEALAND

Mar 4, Auckland: DT: Winchester 61.80; Mar 10-12, Christchurch: New Zealand Championships. 100 (b, 0.3)/200 (-0.3): Donaldson 10.39/20.88; 800 (b): Rodgers 1:47.61; 400H: Armstrong 49.95 rec; HJ: Howard 2.30 rec; DT: (a) Winchester 58.96; W 400: Annot 52.44; 800 (b)/1500: Hodgkinson 2:00.95/4:15.18; DT: (b) Faumuinā 62.06; HT: (b) Williams 62.31; Mar 19, Christchurch: W HT: Williams 62.16.

## PORTUGAL

Mar 18-19, Quinta do Anjo: W SP: (a) Fedushina AUT 18.79; DT: (a/b) Machado 61.65/61.08; HT: (a/b) Alves 58.19 rec/59.57 rec.

## ROMANIA

Mar 3-5, Bucharest: DT: Oprea 62.79; W DT: 1, Orasu 68.70; 2, Ionescu 60.40; HT: Melinte 65.68; JT: Ternure 58.38 (Filip 59.21 qual).

## SOUTH AFRICA

Mar 16, Petersburg: The women's 400m hurdles time of 55.20 by Jana Pittman (born 9.11.1982) of Australia equalled the world junior record held by Leslie Maxie (USA) since 1984.

## USA

Suzy Hamilton, who missed all of last season following an Achilles tendon operation in April, made a promising return to competition at Long Beach by clocking 15:06.48 in her 5000m debut, passing 3000m in 9:01.9. Mar 11, Fullerton: W HT: 1, Vail 60.32; 2, Parish 60.26; Mar 18, Long Beach: W 5000: 1, Hamilton 15:06.48; 2, Kathy Butler 15:45.14; PV: Kubishta 4.20; Mar 18, Tempe: 200: (1.1) Bennett 20.88; 4x100: Arizona State 39.33; W 4x100: USC 43.76.

## INDOORS

## CZECH REPUBLIC

Feb 22, Jablonec: SP: Menc 19.70 (not 19.71).

## FINLAND

Mar 5, Helsinki: DT: Tompuri 63.44.

## GERMANY

Mar 5, Dortmund: W PV: Irie HILL 4.01.

## USA

Feb 29, New York: W 1500: Jacobs 4:07.06.

## ROAD

## ITALY

Mar 12, Vigerano Mainarda: Mar: 1, E Kibiwott KEN 2:13:08; 2, Calcaterra 2:13:15 (pb, third marathon in 2000); 3, D Ngetich KEN 2:13:57; Mar 19, Rome-Ostia: H Mar: 1, Ingargiola 61:19; 2, Nysaburi KEN 61:23; 3, G Leone 61:29; women - 1, Viceconte 71:07; 2, Tola ETH 71:19.

## Results

The most comprehensive round-up of the latest athletics action

## JAPAN

Feb 11, Hiraj: 10M: 1, Okawa 48:54; 2, Iwasa 47:11; 3, Tsubota 47:23; Feb 13, Karatsu: 10M: 1, Takahashi 45:48; 2, Hamano 47:18; 3, Yamamoto 47:23; Feb 27, Yokohama: Women's 42.2k Ekiden: 1, Kenya 2:15:14 (Kumu 16:10, Ndereba 31:34, Omoro 19:37, Kutol 19:04, Subano 32:58, Wambui 15:50); 2, Japan 2:15:36; 3, Romania 2:15:43; 4, China 2:16:16; fastest legs: (1st, 5k) Noguchi 15:44; (2nd, 10k) Ndereba 31:34; (3rd, 8k) Li Ji CHN 18:57; (4th, 6.195k) Panyukhova RUS 18:58; (5th, 10k) Pomecu ROM 32:33; (8th, 5k) Dita ROM 15:19; Mar 20, Matsue: W H Mar: 1, Shibui 69:31; 2, Sakashita 70:56; 3, Murafuji 72:28.

## KOREA

Mar 19, Seoul: Mar: 1, Chung Nam-Kyun 2:11:29 (b 23.10.78, 10th last year in 2:22:02); 2, D Garcia ESP 2:11:46; 3, Ziane MAR 2:12:29; 4, F Kiprop KEN 2:12:45; 5, Anton ESP 2:12:49; 6, Kim Byong-Ryul 2:14:11; women - 1, Park Ko-Eun 2:33:06; 2, Oh Mi-Ja 2:34:56; 3, Suh Ok-Yeon 2:36:08.

## SPAIN

Mar 19, Barcelona: Mar: 1, W Musyoki KEN 2:12:18; 2, B Mutua KEN 2:12:19; 3, W Cheruyot KEN 2:12:26; women - 1, Gonzalez ARG/ESP 2:31:12; 2, Fortunato BRA 2:33:35; 3, Zhuleyeva UKR 2:34:35.

## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Jan 14, Dubai: Mar: 1, W Kibet KEN 2:12:21; 2, J Mutai KEN 2:13:20; 3, Peterson RSA 2:14:30; women - 1, Burangulova RUS 2:40:22; 2, Barbu ROM 2:40:58 ... 6, Trudi THOMSON GBR 2:50:37.

## USA

Mar 12, Denver: 7k: (altitude) P Tanui KEN 20:55 ... 12, Peter FLEMING 22:11; Mar 19, New Bedford: H Mar: Peter WHITEHEAD 68.04.

## ULTRA DISTANCE

## CZECH REPUBLIC

Mar 19, Brno: Indoor 48 hour ultra 1st World Championships: 1, Kocourek 404.759 k; 2, Dvořák 372.085; 3, Jakubik POL 370.381; women - 1, Reutovich RUS 368.644 (WB); 2, Backhaus GER 350.828; 3, Szlachetka POL 291.007.

## WALKS

## GREECE

Mar 18, Marathon: Greek Championships: 50k: Kastanis 3:58:47; W 20k: Deekou 1:31:38 rec.

## ITALY

Mar 18, Albisola Superiore: 12k: 1, De Benedicis 52:05; Mar 19, Taranto: W 20k: 1, Alfridi 1:29:10; 2, Perrone 1:29:10; 3, Pellino 1:31:33 ... 6, Sidoti (suffering from flu) 1:34:08.

## SPAIN

Feb 13, Prat de Llobregat: 30k: 1, Odrizola 2:09:13; 2, Plaza 2:09:47; 3, J M Rodriguez 2:10:37; W 10k: Pérez 44:24; Feb 20, Cehaglin: 20k: Fernández 1:22:02; Mar 19, Cleza: Spanish Championships: 50k: 1, J A Garcia 3:45:14; 2, Odrizola 3:45:57; 3, Avellaneda 3:52:52; 4, S Pérez 3:53:08; 5, J M Rodriguez 3:54:18; W 20k: Pérez 1:32:33 rec.

## CROSS-COUNTRY

## IAAF CROSS CHALLENGE

Final Standings:

(Men) 1, Paul Tergat KEN 107pts; 2, Patrick Ivuti KEN 104; 3, Assefa Mezegebu ETH 102; 4, Charles Kamathi KEN 102; 5, Sergey Lebed UKR 86; 6, Eduardo Henriques POR 75. (Women) 1, Lydia Cheromei KEN 122; 2, Gete Wami ETH 119; 3, Ayelech Woriku ETH 94; 4, Susan Chepkemei KEN 92; 5, Jackie Maranga KEN 79; 6, Paula Radcliffe GBR 66.

## SPAIN

Mar 5, Ourense: Spanish Championships: 13k: 1, Molina 39:54; 2, A Garcia 40:07; 3, Martinaz 40:10; 4, Cunado 40:14; women - 1, Abel 27:02; 2, Santiago 27:14; 3, de Castro 27:30; 4, Vaquero 27:45.

## SWITZERLAND

Mar 4-5, Thun: Swiss Championships: 4k: Lakhal MAR 13:22; 10k: Khelifi TUN 31:15; W 3k/6k: Weyermann 10:52/20:38. Trine Hattestad's throw of 68.19 at Fana on July 28 has not been accepted as the inaugural world javelin record with the new women's javelin as no doping control was carried out. The ratified world record is therefore 67.09 by Albanian-born Mirella Tzeli of Greece when winning the world title in Seville on Aug 28. Hungarian discus thrower Attila Horváth (32) has announced his retirement. He topped the 1994 world list with his national record of 68.58 and was the only man to beat Lars Riedel in 1995. He was European junior champion in 1985, third in the 1991 World Championships, fifth in the 1992 Olympics and fourth in the 1995 World Championships. Simona Staicu, a 2:30:52 marathoner from Romania who has been living in Hungary since 1993, received Hungarian citizenship on March 14.

## THIRTY-SOMETHING "RECORDS"

Michael Johnson's astonishing start to the season, a 19.71 200m at altitude in South Africa, was among other things a world best by an athlete of his age (32) and highlighted yet again that entering your thirties is no barrier to producing brilliant performances. Here (compiled by Mel Watman) is a list of "world records" by the 30 and over brigade, the only weak event being the women's pole vault for the very good reason that none of the current world class performers has yet reached that age.

Men

100m: 9.84 Bruny Surin CAN 1998 (32)  
200m: 19.71A Michael Johnson USA 2000 (32)  
400m: 43.18 Michael Johnson USA 1999 (31)  
800m: 1:42.80 Johnny Gray USA 1992 (32)  
1500m: 3:30.58 William Tanui KEN 1997 (33)  
5k: 14:40.73 Steve Scott USA 1998 (30)  
10k: 29:59.44 Brahim Lahlaoui MAR 1999 (31)  
20k: 1:00:54.70 Dieter Baumann GER 1987 (32)  
30k: 1:26:58.38 Yobes Ondieki KEN 1993 (32)  
40k: 2:06:16 Moses Tanui KEN 1999 (34)  
50k: 2:43:41 Patrick Sang KEN 1997 (33)  
60k: 3:22.94 Jack Pierce USA 1996 (33)  
70k: 4:07.23 Amadou Dia Ba SEN 1988 (30)  
80k: 4:52.42 Carlo Thränhardt FRG 1988 (30)  
90k: 5:42.84 Sergey Bubka UKR 1994 (30)  
100k: 6:37.87 Carl Lewis USA 1991 (30)  
110k: 7:38.09 Henny Harrison USA 1996 (31)  
120k: 8:32.64 Udo Beyer GDR 1986 (31)  
130k: 9:27.26 John Powell USA 1984 (36), Ricky Bruch SWE 1984 (36) & Imrich Buger TCH 1985 (30)  
140k: 10:26.74 Yuriy Sedykh URS 1986 (31)  
150k: 11:24.02 Jan Zelený CZE 1997 (30)  
160k: 12:24.88 Dan O'Brien USA 1996 (30)  
170k: 13:24.18 Pavel Blazek TCH 1990 (32)

50k: 7:39.22 Sergey Korepanov KZK 1999 (34)  
Women  
100m: 10.74 Merlene Ottey JAM 1996 (36)  
200m: 21.64 Merlene Ottey JAM 1991 (31)  
400m: 47.99 Jarmila Kratochvílová TCH 1983 (32)  
800m: 1:53.28 Jarmila Kratochvílová TCH 1983 (32)  
1500m: 3:56.66 Yekaterina Podkopayeva URS 1984 (32)  
5k: 17:33 Maricica Puica ROM 1985 (35)  
10k: 35:22.62 Tatyana Kazankina URS 1984 (32)  
20k: 1:14:33 Ingrid Kristiansen NOR 1986 (30)  
30k: 2:05.74 Ingrid Kristiansen NOR 1986 (30)  
40k: 2:52.48 Ingrid Kristiansen NOR 1987 (31)  
50k: 3:42.37 Gail Devers USA 1999 (32)  
60k: 4:32.79 Sandra Farmer-Patrick USA 1993 (31)  
70k: 5:25.05 Stefka Kostadinova BUL 1986 (31)  
80k: 6:12.22 Gabriela Mihalea ROM 1999 (35)  
90k: 7:04.49 Jackie Joyner-Kersey USA 1994 (32)  
100k: 7:58.03 Iolanda Chen RUS 1995 (33)  
110k: 8:51.89 Ivanka Khristova BUL 1986 (34)  
120k: 9:44.56 Zdenka Šilhavá TCH 1984 (30)  
130k: 10:37.10 Lorraine Shaw GBR 1999 (31)  
140k: 11:28.19 Trine Hattestad NOR 1999 (33)  
150k: 12:20.44 Jackie Joyner-Kersey USA 1992 (30)  
160k: 13:14.04 Yelena Nikolayeva RUS 1996 (30)  
170k: 14:07.30 Nadezhda Ryashkina RUS 1999 (32)  
New to the "thirties" club this year and potential record breakers for the age group include Wilson Kipketer (Dec 12), Nouraddine Morceli (turned 30 on Feb 28), Mohammed Mourhit (Oct 10), Ronaldo da Costa (Jun 7), Moses Kiptanui (Oct 1), Kelly Holmes (Apr 18), Joyce Chepchumba (Nov 6) and Olga Kuzenkova (Oct 4).

THIS review of World results is brought to you by Peter Matthews and Mel Watman, publishers of Athletics International, which contains much more detailed world-wide results.

There are 30 issues per year. Annual subscription rates for first-class post or airmail: UK - £65, rest of Europe - £75, outside Europe - £90 or US \$160. By cash or cheques drawn on a UK bank in pounds sterling, payable to Athletics International, to: Mel Watman, 13 Garden Court, Marsh Lane, Stanmore, Middx HA7 4TE, England. Fax no: 0181-954 7497 (from abroad - 44 181 954 7497). Free sample copy on request.

## Overseas

## CZECH REPUBLIC

## PRAGUE HALF-MARATHON, March 25

KENYA's Isaac Kiprono beat Italy's Danilo Goffi by a mere second in a sprint finish to win in record time at Prague's Stromovka Park.

Kiprono's time of 1:03:28 beat the previous course record set by Libya's Ali Ezzayebi by a minute and 20 seconds. Goffi, a European Championships silver medalist, was second in the exciting race which was run under overcast skies. Another Kenyan, Paul Atudonyang came in third.

Kiprono, who acted as a pacemaker when Khalid Khannouchi ran the world best marathon time last October in Chicago, praised the Prague course. He now considers entering the Nashville Marathon in Tennessee. Goffi said that the race was an ideal preparation for his London Marathon aspirations in April. The Italian, who's also



April 19 2000 £1.80

# athletics

WEEKLY

REVIEWS THE SPORT • REVEALS THE ATHLETE

Inside:  
Rotterdam  
Marathon

FREE-TO-ENTER COMPETITION

WIN!



Puma Cellerator shoes

## Stars struck

Pinto's European best destroys  
classiest marathon field ever



14 pages of Flora London Marathon coverage including in-depth results



## Hijacking Carol

IF ONE of the avowed aims of British athletics is to bring athletics to the people why are three meetings of note being staged, on consecutive weekends in May and June, at Bedford? It is a question that Carol Jackson, sole promoter of the Bedfordshire International Games, may well be ruefully asking herself as she contemplates her meeting being the Tail-End Charlie of the glut. Unless the good citizens of Bedford begin saving now it seems that her meeting, rather than the Inter-Counties or the Johnny Come Lately, the second Road to Sydney televised meeting, will suffer.

Of course it is a reflection of the efficient co-operation and organisation of the Bedford stadium that three such meetings have chosen to go there. "The Bedford stadium fought off strong competition to be chosen..." said a recent press release. However, there are neglected areas of the country where a first class meeting would do much to boost local interest and surely this should have been a consideration for UK Athletics as it seeks to promote the sport more widely.

It is the second year Carol Jackson has seen her date hijacked and as, apart from stadium hire, she covers all expenses for the meeting out of her own pocket, a good crowd would go some way to covering the costs and thereby please her bank manager.

She may well feel entitled to ask if UK Athletics/PAS/Fast Track feel that meetings such as the Bedford Games are worthwhile. The need for a group of second tier meetings seems fairly obvious, especially to those fighting for recognition. It will not encourage budding promoters outside the mainstream to see such apparent rough-shodding going on.

# Right problem, wrong solution

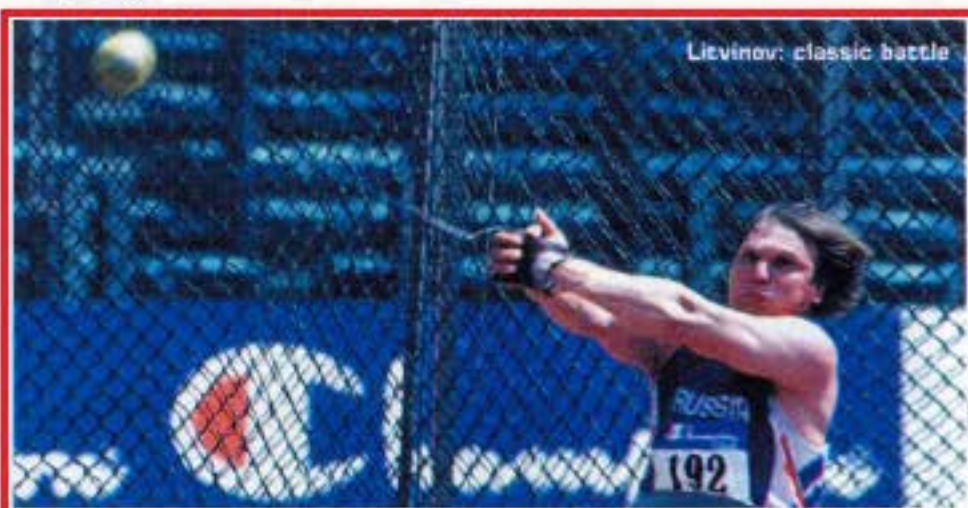
THE current debate within the IAAF about changing the nature of the sport by restricting the number of attempts by competitors in high jump and pole vault, allied with ideas to reduce the number of attempts in throws and horizontal jumps is interesting.

"Let us not fear change," says president Lamine Diack. Absolutely. But he should also note the question of a New York professor in another context. "What is the problem," Neil Postman says we should ask, "to which this is a solution?"

It was the marketing branch of the European AA that decided there was a problem with the European Cup. The competition was losing favour with spectators and more frighteningly to the EAA marketers, with television. It was decided that horizontal jumps and throws should be reduced from six attempts to four in order to speed up the programme. Anyone who has watched a Cup competition since that implementation will not have noticed a ha'porth of difference.

If one could ask those that have stayed away from European Cups for their reasons would they say, "Because the triple jump takes too much time?" Of course not. It was a wrong solution to the original problem.

Television never has and never will



Litvinov: classic battle

show every jump and throw in a competition. In the IAAF Newsletter, Georges Giauffret, a TV athletics director wrote: "This proposal won't change the way an athletics meeting is covered on TV... even if they wanted to, directors cannot follow an entire pole vault or high jump competition with so much else going on at the same time." Exactly.

Diack wrote: "I personally can recall many occasions when athletes participating in the pole vault and high jump have performed incredible feats inside a stadium whose fans have gone home, or broken records when the TV broadcast has gone off the air." So have we all Mr President. The solution, however, lies in better programming, not in reducing the number of

attempts for each competitor.

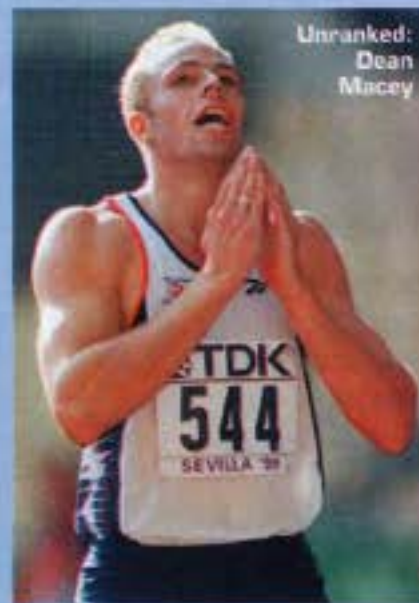
For many, field events are super-numerary to the main fare, track. It is still assumed by many promoters that the public is not interested in jumps and throws. The lie to that was proven 19 years ago when Britain faced the old Soviet Union in a match at Gateshead, a veritable heartland of harrierism. The tickets showed the first event at a certain time, so the stadium was packed when the hammer began one hour before the first track event. The crowd was gripped by a great contest between two world class 80m throwers, Sedykh and Litvinov.

There is a thin line between making our sport more user or more viewer/spectator friendly. The IAAF or the EAA cross it at their peril.

MATTHEW CRAWCOUR of UK Sports Council last week asked the question: are there 247 athletes at the present time who can meet the criteria of having the potential to achieve medal success at Olympic, World and European level? His question, did he but know it, exposes the fatuousness of the present criteria for lottery funding. It appeared on the same day that his organisation announced that, because less lottery tickets are being sold, support for sport could drop by 30 per cent for the four years up to the Athens Olympics. Holding a gun to the head of sports just months prior to an Olympics, when the lottery funding schemes are hardly under way, is diabolical.

The whole question of lottery support revolves around the term 'potential'. What does it mean, how can you identify it? It means just what the sports councils choose it to mean and they choose it to mean positions

## Wrong problem, wrong solution



Unranked: Dean Macey

in ranking lists. If you placed fifth in the world one year, the theory goes, chances are that you can get a medal at the next championship. Really?

In Seville last year 21 (16.6 per cent) of the medalists would have suffered under the UK criteria, coming outside the top 20 of the year before. Thirty-seven (29.4 per cent) were ranked outside the top 10. 59 (46.8 per cent) outside the top five. People like 400m hurdles bronze medallist Marcel Schelbert, who was 90th in 1998, 400m hurdles gold medallist Daimi Pernia, who ranked 83rd and our own Dean Macey (unranked) would have been laughed out of court.

It is this obsession with medals, which like an epidemic passes down from politician to bureaucrat, that will finally sink lottery funding and some

sports with it. The answer to Crawcour's question is, of course, no. One would go further: there are not 91 athletes who can meet that criteria. But there are a very large number of athletes who would meet it if you set it at finalist level. And if Max Jones was allowed to present his case personally to the Lottery Board (a matter not addressed by Crawcour) he would patiently explain the obvious: before you produce medalists you have to produce finalists.

Dishing out money to individual athletes and bypassing the federation is to go down a cul-de-sac to disaster. You cannot divorce potential from development.

However noxious its sports programme was, the GDR knew that to find its medalists it had to spread its net wide. In Britain under the present sports council's regime the opposite pertains. Kate Hoey, sort this lot out.



June 28 2000 £1.95

# athletics

WEEKLY

REVIEWS THE SPORT • REVEALS THE ATHLETE

**Andrea Whitcombe  
runs Olympic qualifier**

**British team  
captain  
resigns**

**Exclusive  
interview  
with Chris Maddocks**

**World relay best  
at Battersea Park**

**Ashia Hansen**

**Solid season-opener at Aqua-Pura spectacular**

**Fill the form in for  
free injury advice**

**SPORTS INJURY MANAGEMENT**  
**FREE LAUNCH ISSUE**

All Sport a publication designed for the day-to-day use of athletes, coaches and physios, offering advice, information and news on the latest developments in the world of sport. It is a publication that you can rely on for expert advice and news on the latest developments in the world of sport. It is a publication that you can rely on for expert advice and news on the latest developments in the world of sport. It is a publication that you can rely on for expert advice and news on the latest developments in the world of sport.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**NO STAMP NEEDED**



**Belgrave and Sale share the honours in British League clash**



# Hammer goes full circle as Black chases world best

WITH your hip so suspect that you have to lay off sex and sleep with a pillow between your thighs, you might reckon your athletics days are numbered, writes Doug Gilan.

Not Chris Black. Seventh in the 1976 Olympic final, the Edinburgh man says if his body holds up, he can break the world 50-plus record at the European Veterans' Championships in Finland next month.

"My target is 63.50 metres, using the six-kilo hammer," says Black, back after a 15-year absence, and a hip replacement. "No sex for eight weeks, and the pillow, to stop me crossing my legs - those were the surgeon's instructions," says Black, who reached

almost 20 stones, doing strength contests, after quitting the circle.

In the Scottish men's league first division this month he finished second to Scottish champion Dave Allen, launching the 16lb hammer to a UK veteran best of 53.91m.

"My technique is a bit competition-rusty," says Black, "but it is getting better thanks to my wife. I've done 62.07m with the lighter implement.

"That's a UK veterans' best as well, and I really believe I can get the world record in Finland." That would be some compensation for Montreal in 1976 when he threw 73.18m.

Yuri Sedykh won Olympic gold with 77.52m. Black was over 80m in warm-up.

He will miss the UK vets in order to do the Scottish Championships where young men like defending champion Allan will need to be on their mettle to prevent the embarrassment of Black regaining a title he last won in 1986.

"I've lost two stones since January when my wife put me on a diet," says Black. His wife, former badminton international Christine Heatly, now a coach, has prescribed sprint and fast-foot drills from her sport, and he is now much quicker in the circle. "At 17st 2lb, I'm the same weight as '76 for the first time since." Though his UK record has long gone, Black still ranks fourth all-time. His Scottish record of 75.40m has survived since 1983.

## Cup trouble

THE fact that athletics is gradually losing its grass roots interest was graphically demonstrated in the first round of the Gold and Jubilee Cup first round matches at Eton.

The introduction of the double fixtures for men's and women's competitions was a blessing in disguise, for it masked the dismal attendance record of some clubs, but did, at least, provide good competition. Crawley gave both matches a miss. Their complement of officials was badly missed.

Another strong all-round club, Highgate, put in a token attendance in both events. With Wycombe's women also missing, the draw for the Jubilee Cup was unbalanced. Match two, won by Newham & Essex Beagles, after a battle with Blackheath, Ealing Southall & Middlesex. Croydon and Woodford Green/Essex Ladies saw most clubs filling all events. However, only four clubs took part in match one, but Highgate and Worthing managed 70 points between them. There were protests from the six clubs in match two, who felt they may have gone through had they been in match one.

League press secretary Tom Polak said the draw should have been done differently and the third qualifying club from both competitions should have been made known on the day.

# Surrey county newsletter to be revived

SCAN, Surrey County Athletics News, which was launched in June 1958 by the late John Martell, best known as a former AAA treasurer and the sport's first national administrator, and Les Ward, has been revived.

It has been re-launched under the editorship of past Surrey president Keith Burchell, who recently stood down as one of the county's track and field championships secretaries.

He is currently the compiler of annual ranking lists for U20 and U17 men and U15 and U13 boys. He is also preparing a new edition of the Surrey County handbook.

Burchell's first issue contains county news, including a report on Surrey's triumph in the U15 girls' section of the National Sports Hall finals at Birmingham's NIA and a complete list of who's who in UK Athletics.

Keith plans to produce the county newsletter three times a year and copy deadlines for the next two editions are August 16 and November 15.

He would welcome any news, views and other information from clubs and individuals in Surrey sent to him at 26 Norfolk Avenue, Sanderstead, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 8BN, or via email to keith.burchell@hotmail.com

The screenshot shows the athleticsnet.com website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Back', 'Forward', 'Stop', 'Refresh', 'Home', 'Search', 'Mail', 'Favorites', 'Larger', 'Smaller', and 'Preferences'. Below that is a search bar with the address 'http://www.athleticsnet.com'. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'Have your say...' and 'Opinions count'. Below this, there's a survey titled 'Question of the Week: Do you think that GB will beat USA in the Norwich Union Challenge in Glasgow on Sunday?'. There are three buttons: 'YES', 'NO', and 'DON'T KNOW'. Below the survey, there's another question: 'Last week's opinions: Do you think that athletes should be disqualified after one false start?'. The results are shown as percentages: 13% for YES, 84% for NO, and 3% for DON'T KNOW. At the bottom, there's a call to action: 'REGISTER YOUR OPINION NOW AT www.athleticsnet.com'. On the left side, there's a sidebar with links to 'athleticsnet.com', 'THE ONLINE GUIDE TO UK ATHLETICS', 'NEWS', 'RESULTS', 'FEATURES', 'PROFILES', 'EVENTS', 'GAMES ZONE', 'ATHLETICS SEARCH', and 'UK SITES'.



# athletics

WEEKLY

September 13 2000 £1.95

REVIEWS THE SPORT • REVEALS THE ATHLETE

## Sydney Olympics Preview Edition



Inside — your 60-page guide to all the athletics action



We've £2500 of gear from  
official Olympic partners  
**ProSport** to be won



• The most comprehensive results service



## ★ Records

## World record

Yury Sedykh (URS) 86.74m

## Olympic record

Sergey Litvinov (URS) 84.80m

## British record

Martin Girvan 77.54m

## ★ Atlanta '96

Gold: Balazs Kiss (HUN)

Silver: Lance Deal (USA)

Bronze: Aleksey Krykun (UKR)



Sergey Litvinov

## ★ History

Patrick O'Callaghan's two gold medals at the hammer in 1928 and 1932 are two of only four gold medals Ireland has won in Olympic track & field events.

## ★ Did you know?

Hungary's Balazs Kiss, the reigning Olympic champion who has thrown 79.22m this season, weighs 115kg and stands 1.92m tall. His surname name in Hungarian means short or small!

## Hammer

**O**fall the men's throwing events the hammer is the hardest one to call. 19 athletes have so far thrown over 80m this year but no one is really consistent at that level, nobody having had more than three competitions in this territory. The wide open nature of the event this summer is no better exemplified than by the current world leader Gilles Dupray of France (82.38m).

That throw by Dupray was made at the end of June and the best since was 79.59m for second behind American Lance Deal in Nice at the beginning of July. Hardly the most consistent of performers at the best of times, the 30-year-old Dupray has failed to qualify for the final stage at all major championships he has entered since 1995.

If there is to be a serious French challenge for Olympic laurels it is more likely to come from the hands of Christophe Epalle who lies third in the world rankings this year with 81.79m. Epalle's championship record is only slightly better than his compatriot's – seventh in the 1994 Europeans his best – but he has shown a level of consistency consolidating his season with 80.14, 79.90 and 79.52m competitions.

Qualifying (group A): Saturday, September 23, 10.00 (12.00am BST)

Qualifying (group B): Saturday, September 23, 12.15 (2.15am BST)

Final: Sunday, September 24, 20.30 (10.30am BST)



Karsten Kobs

Hungarian 1999 world championship fourth placer Tibor Gecsek (81.92m), Russia's 1997 world bronze medallist Vasily Sidorenko (81.75m), Ukraine's, 1999 world bronze medallist Vladislav Piskunov and 1995 world silver medallist Igor Astapovich (BLR) (81.25m), lie second, fourth, fifth and seventh respectively in the world rankings. Each of these throwers has also had three 80m-plus com-

petitions to their names. However, 39-year-old eight-time American champion Lance Deal should not be discounted and might just add to the silver medal he won in Atlanta.

In an event littered with question marks this season, the biggest variable is the form of Germany's two world champions, Heinz Weis – gold medallist in 1997 – and current champion Karsten Kobs. During the early part of this season both men threw below par but lately have crept over the 80m line for the first time in what is maybe a well timed bid for Olympic glory during such a long season. Weis threw 80.13m in mid-August, while Kobs, who led the world in 1999 with a mighty 82.78m, won the German Championships at the end of July with an encouraging 80.21m.

Reigning Olympic champion Balazs Kiss (79.22m) has yet to break 80m this year but should never be discounted. However, those looking for good outside odds should perhaps bet on either Japan's Asian Games champion Koji Murofushi (80.56m) or Finland's world junior champion and record-holder Olli-Pekka Karjalainen (80.55m) as both have been over 80m three times this season.

## ★ Records

## World record

Jan Zelezny (CZE) 98.48m

## Olympic record

Jan Zelezny (CZE) 89.66m

## British record

Steve Backley 91.46m

## ★ Atlanta '96

Gold: Jan Zelezny (CZE)

Silver: Steve Backley (GB)

Bronze: Seppo Rätty (FIN)

## ★ History

Finland has won seven Olympic titles in this event, including two by Jonni Myyrä in 1920 and 1924.

## ★ Did you know?

Jan Zelezny's surname means 'iron man' but despite setting his first world record in 1987 he failed to win gold at the four subsequent major championships in 1987, '88, '90 and '91.

## ★ Top Brit

## Steve Backley

Three-time European champion needs to add gold to his two previous Olympic medals, bronze ('92) silver ('96), before he can truly claim a place among the world's all-time greats.



## Javelin

**T**HE javelin is our most successful event!" said '96 Olympic silver medallist Steve Backley and there is no doubt the men's javelin represents Britain's best hope of a throwing gold in Sydney.

However, until the last few weeks the omens have not been promising with Britain's top two of recent years Mick Hill and Backley throwing below par. While European silver medallist Hill (83.71m) remains mainly in the 81m range, a "third man" in the guise of Irulo's Nick Nieland broke through at the AAAs with a magnificent 85.09m personal best.

Backley seems to have sorted out his technical problems and produced a good 84-85m series of throws behind Finland's world champion Aki Parviainen in London and an impressive 86.70m win at the AAAs. Given Backley's two previous Olympic medals – bronze 1992 and silver 1996 – and three European gold, he has nothing to prove as a competitor.

However, all three British throwers need to significantly up their distances if they are to stand a realistic chance of challenging the present world top three for Olympic medals.

The 2000 season has been domi-

Qualifying (group A): Friday, September 22, 11.30 (1.30am BST)

Qualifying (group B): Friday, September 22, 13.15 (3.15am BST)

Final: Saturday, September 23, 20.25 (10.25am BST)



Aki Parviainen

nated by three names, world record-holder Jan Zelezny (CZE), Parviainen and the Greek Kostas Gatsioudis who took world silver behind the Finn last summer. Zelezny (90.59m) and Parviainen (90.97m) have each thrown over the 90m line in three competitions. However, the world lead is currently held by Gatsioudis whose 91.69m effort in Kuortane beat Parviainen's 90.97m challenge and produced the

competition of the year so far.

Zelezny, in an effort to protect both a shoulder and back injured frequently during a dozen years of top competition has competed sparingly. But after returning from injury to land the world bronze last year, nobody should be surprised if the Czech takes a third consecutive Olympic title in Sydney.

Besides Backley and the big three, Russian Sergey Makarov (89.92m) has also posted his Olympic intentions with a comprehensive defeat of Gatsioudis at the European Cup in Gateshead. Makarov commented that Gatsioudis looked tired in Gateshead and except for a 86.12m win in Athens at the end of July, the Greek has totally disappeared from competition.

There is also a question mark over the form and fitness of Germany's Boris Henry (86.65m) and Raymond Hecht (83.84m) – both 90m men when in form they've been uncharacteristically off the boil all season.

Left-handed Cuban Emeterio Gonzalez (87.12m) may spring a surprise having increased his PB by nearly three metres this summer. There is also a Finnish pair to consider, Harri Hakkarainen (85.65m) and world junior record-holder Harri Haatainen (86.10m).