

Awards and Recognitions

The Dick Barbour

Meritorious Service Award

1985.....	Hank Patton
1986.....	George Newlon
	Roxanne Anderson
1987.....	Dan Dotta
	Del Dotta
1988.....	Harry Young
	Henry "Hank" Weston
1989.....	Ed Parker
	Harmon Brown
1990.....	Horace Crow
1991.....	(No award)
1992.....	Dick Connors
1993.....	George Kleeman
1994.....	Tom Moore
1995.....	Charlie Sheppard
1996.....	Norm Morrison
1997.....	(no award)
1998.....	John Luppess
1999.....	Richard Zulaica
2000.....	Jim Hume
	Jim Wynn
2001.....	Bob Shor
	Rick Milam
2002.....	Bob Rauch
2003.....	Lori Maynard
	Sonny Maynard
2004.....	Gail Wetzork
2005.....	Phil Watkins
2006.....	Bill Edgar
2007.....	Ed Hicks

The George Newlon

Special Recognition Award — Track

1995.....	Bob Mason
1996.....	Ben Morjig
1997.....	(no award)
1998.....	Jerry Colman
1999.....	Bobby Hughey
2000.....	Dan Davidson
2001.....	John Coie
2002.....	Gerry Collet
2003.....	Dick Iwamiya
2004.....	Rick Urband
2005.....	Joe Harper
2006.....	Richard Cabral
2007.....	Colin Campbell

The Horace Crow

Special Recognition Award — Field

1995.....	Sonny Maynard
1996.....	Rich Zulaica
1997.....	(no award)
1998.....	Bill Edgar
1999.....	Joan M. Wilson
2000.....	Phil Watkins
2001.....	Dr. Leon Glover, Jr.
2002.....	Bruce Colman
2003.....	Dick Petruzzi
2004.....	Teddy Hayes
2005.....	Shirley Connors
	Margaret Sheehan
2006.....	John Murray
2007.....	Bill Hawkes



Turns & Distances

Pacific Association Officials Committee

% Dick Connors, 2065 Kings Lane, San Mateo, CA 94402

September 7th Annual meeting

Vice Chairman of officials, **Phil Watkins** reports from Sacramento that plans for the USATF Pacific Officials Committee annual meeting are well under way. The Awards Luncheon with annual meeting will take place **Sunday, September 7, 2008** at the **Recreation Pool Lodge** on the Campus of the **University of California Davis**, from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The Recreation Pool Lodge is located just north of the Recreation Pool at the corner of Hutchison and La Rue. From all directions: get to Highway 113. Take the Hutchison Drive turn off. Follow Hutchison past a series of greenhouses, and take the first left onto Extension Drive. (If you hit LaRue, you've gone too far – make a U turn.) After turning onto Extension Drive, turn right almost immediately into the parking lot. The Rec. Pool Lodge is the last building on the right. There is ample free parking available in back of the Rec. Hall.

Phil states the cost of the affair to officials and their guest is \$10.00 per person with emeritus members free. Members and guest are to send their **checks made out to the Pacific Association USATF** to Phil Watkins, 1090 San Ramon Way, Sacramento, CA 95864.

Chairman Bruce Colman and the executive committee are looking forward to greeting all the officials and their guests. In addition to the annual meeting and awards a guest speaker has been invited to address the gathering.

Phil is looking for donations to his annual raffle and Leon Glover is still looking for nominations of officials for awards.

Many thanks to **Jon Vochatzer** and UCD T&F program for sponsoring this fine luncheon program for the officials.



Lorri Coppola really did carry the Olympic Torch in San Francisco. She is in the center!

Credits this issue Credits this issue: Dick Connors, Charles Murphy, Maria Castillo, John Shirey, Jim Hume and Bruce Colman for writing, Jim Hume for desk top publishing, Mark Youmans, Shirley Connors and Jim Hume for photography, Bruce Colman and Dick Connors for copy reading and Dick Connors for mailing.

Warning: You Are About To Be Decertified As A USATF Track & Field Official!

Thoughts on re-certification by Jim Hume

Yes, it is true! You are about to be decertified as a USATF Track & Field Official! While I hope you watch and enjoy the Olympic Games, remember as you wipe away the tears as the Olympic Flame is extinguished, there goes your certification as an official.

Have no fear though, there are plans afoot to restore your exalted status and while there is little in stone, here is the thinking:

- Recertification is being designed to be as painless as possible, but, at the same time, to be an effective review of your experience and skills. Everyone must have USATF Membership. **You must bring proof of**

your new membership to the ReCert clinic. We need your membership number! In the past

this was a Pacific Association requirement, but now it is a national requirement. In the past the Pacific Association paid for your supplemental insurance policy for when you work non USATF meets. In the future the national will pay for your supplemental insurance. The Pacific Association will continue to pay to the national what it costs to register you as a certified official.

- Since you can not get a USATF Membership which is good for 2009 until November of 2008, we will hold no recertification clinics until November. Indeed, since November is a very busy month for championship cross country meets on the weekend, and then we have the USATF convention in Reno the first weekend of December, we will hold no recertification clinics until mid December.
- With your recertification you will receive a new official's badge and a new official's pin with the new USATF logo. When you come to a ReCert clinic and have all your paperwork, you will receive your new pin when you turn in your papers. If you do not have your paperwork in order, you will get to take all your papers home, complete them, add \$3.00 to your fees for the mailing of your pin, and then resubmit everything at one time.
 - Everyone will need to fill in a new official's database form.

- Everyone will have an opportunity to have a new picture on their new badge. I will begin taking the new pictures at the 2008 Annual Meeting.
- Everyone who has a history of working track meets needs to bring their resume of meets worked. The skills you have printed on the back of your badge need to reflect the events you have actively worked.
- Everyone will need to take an appropriate Association, National or Master rules review. Each review will consist of some combination of true/false, multiple choice and fill in questions. The Pacific Association version of each review will also consist of discussion situations so you may consider how you would handle the situation if you were the official in charge.



Photography by Hume

Roger Quimby marking the center and back half of the SP circle in Kezar Stadium at ICG.

- This time around a National or Master Level official candidate will not have to take the Association Level Rules Review. One review per person.
- An Association Level official who has sufficient time in service and an extensive enough resume and wants to advance to the National Level will take only the National Level Rules Review. A National Level official who has sufficient time in service and an extensive enough resume and wants to advance to the Master Level will take only the Master Level Rules Review.
- While it is possible for you to take the review all by yourself, the Pacific

Association versions of all of these reviews are designed to be taken in and discussed by a group.

- Long Distance Running and Cross Country Officials and Race Walk officials do not have to take any of the Track & Field Rule Reviews. **Caution** however, if you want to be selected to officiate at a national meet, you need to have track and field certification.
- There are specialty reviews for everyone who wants certification in Combined Events, Implement Inspection (formerly known as Weights & Measures), Technical Manager, FinishLynx operation and FieldLynx operation (also known as Electronic Measuring and Electronic Operation). I would like to see these clinics be group/sharing clinics.

- Implement Inspection requires that you have attended a class and been approved by George Kleeman or someone in our association whom he authorizes.
- Technical Manager requires that you have been approved by George Kleeman.
- FinishLynx operation requires that your ability to operate the system has been demonstrated. Such demonstration will come with your resume and/or from Sean Laughlin.
- Electronic Measurement/Electronic Recording (FieldLynx operation) requires that your ability to operate the system has been demonstrated to Jim Hume, or if you are from another part of the country Jim McGloin or Mark Henkel.
- In my dream world, the mid December clinic would be for Master level officials. As a Master level official, they will be encouraged/expected to help with the other clinics.
- During January and February ReCert clinics (my spell check better get used to that word for I am going to use ReCert often) will be held in locations which can afford us enough rooms. We also need to have clinics for newbies. We probably will not have as many specialty clinics this year. When we offer a specialty clinic...we may only have them once.

What action do you need to take right now?

1. If you have a facility you would like to volunteer as a site to host ReCert clinics, send me an e-mail soonest! Please tell me how many rooms you have and how large the rooms are. I receive e-mails at jimhume.certchair@sbcglobal.net.
2. If you would like to lead a ReCert clinic, please suggest the level of clinic you would like to lead.

Heard at the Track

• USATF has a new CEO!

Doug Logan was named to the post on Friday, July 18th. If you go to USATF.org and look at the news tab on that tiny menu bar, you can read all.



Doug Logan

- **Donations:** The Officials Committee has received donations from Modesto Relays (thank you, Gregg Miller and Save Mart) and the Peninsula Athletic League. Also one of our members, who wishes to remain anonymous, has been using an employer-matching-grant program to send us donations the last two years.
- **Charlie Sheppard** has been nominated for National Officials Committees' **John Davis Memorial Award**

for service to humanity. New Gnus...Charlie made the cut and is in the last five.

- **Ed Gordon** and **John Lilygren** earn "**Hume's Hero Awards**" from Jim Hume for using FieldLynx to record vertical events. At Modesto, Ed Gordon relied on FieldLynx when running Five Alive for the Open Men's Pole Vault, and at the International Children's Games, John, working the event by himself, used FieldLynx for the girl's high jump.
- **Shirley Connors** was one of the lead officials for the horizontal jumps at the 2008 NCAA Division I National Championships in Des Moines, Iowa. She had a very interesting experience arranging her crew of officials as none of the group had ever used the laser measuring equipment. After a short hands-on training program, several trials and a few errors the right personalities were in place to run an error-free competition
- Also tried at the NCAA competition was a **laser beam on the long jump** toe board to call fouls. Once understood by the officials the new device worked with mixed success.
- **Tracks in Repair:** Contractors have started updating UC Davis's track and field facilities. Major retrofitting has begun at Diablo Valley College's track. DVC will host the Nor Cal Trials and Finals in 2009.
- **Coaching Changes at Stanford.** With close of the '08 Track and Field Season veteran and highly successful distance and head cross country coach **Peter Teagan** has decided to call it a career and retire from the rigors of coaching. (Congratulations Peter, we enjoyed working with you and wish you nothing but the best in retirement) Throws coach **Kevin McMahon** is also leaving the Stanford coaching staff to return to his previous position as a classroom teacher and assistant track coach at Bellermino High School in San Jose. Good luck in your new endeavors gentlemen.
- **USATF Officials Luggage Tags** showing you are a certified official are a new item available. Your order for the \$2.00 each tag should go to **Charlie Ruter**, 9801 Hillock Drive, Fern Creek, KY 40291. Include your money, address, USATF Association and e-mail address.
- **Tony Sandoval** has been named Director of Track and Field at UC Berkeley. (Read the full story at www.calbears.com).



- The **2008 USATF National Convention** will be held at the Silver Legacy Hotel in **Reno**, Nevada, December 4-7. The Officials clinics on Friday, December 5th will be a high point of the convention.
- The **Stanford Invitational Cross Country Championships** will be held Saturday, September 27, on the golf course. Again this year the coaching staff is expecting a large field of high school runners. Stanford will also host the **Western Regional NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships** on Saturday, November 15, 2008.
- **University of Nevada Reno** is hosting the Nevada Twilight Meet (*now Aug 29th*) and could use "a few more officials," according to assistant coach TJ Crater. Contact Coach Crater if interested, at tcrater@unr.edu
- **USA Qualifies For Olympic Games Relays...** 21 July 2008 – Monte-Carlo – The qualification period for the men's and women's 4x100m and 4x400m Relays at the Games of the XXIX Olympiad, Beijing 2008 ended last Wednesday, 16 July. Qualifiers are the top 16 teams when adding a country's two fastest times which determined the qualification of each of the national teams (achieved at IAAF recognized international events in the qualification period of 1 January 2007 to 16 July 2008). The USA score leads all four relays, but the top teams are close.
- [Here are Hume's hints for using the internet while watching the Olympics.] The above little gem was discovered when I went to <http://trackandfieldnews.com> and looked under Today's Headlines. I could track other stories if I looked under Latest Results. A very useful site if you want to keep up with all the news.
- Also of great interest during the Olympic Games will be the IAAF web site. If you type "iaaf.org" into the row where you search for web site, you will get the IAAF site. If you click on the button for the 12th IAAF Word Juniors, then on a day, then on an event and then on "results" you will see under the results in the lower right corner a button which will lead you to a view of the photo finish picture. I expect the photo finish pictures will be available for the Olympics. Sure would have loved to see some from our Trials.



Photo given to Rory by Pretty Sporty

Those who watched the Olympic Trials on TV saw lots of our Rory Osborne. Rory was marshalling athletes from the finish line off the track, not an easy chore he reports with everyone else with some business at the finish line.

- **A View Of The Olympic Trials From The Other Side Of The Start Line...** *a part of a Lolo Jones press conference which points out an athlete's need for money for living/training expenses in order to continue to train after college graduation.*

My fitness is excellent. I've had a decent amount of races and my worst race of the whole year, including indoors, I finished third. So I think I'm ready to go

I have more experience this year (than last). But not only that, in my younger years I was more worried about the financial aspects because I didn't have a solid contract so I was also working two jobs and I was just trying to survive in this game of track and field. Now I have a great sponsor and I don't have to worry about those things. My complete focus is just track, that's my sole job. I'm very grateful that I can focus all my attention on running.

I worked at Home Depot and I was a cashier, a personal trainer and a hostess at a restaurant, just a lot of jobs where you're on your feet.

I think my contract helped me to be able to relax. I was able to pay my bills. At one point when I was starting off, I wasn't using my air conditioning because I couldn't afford to pay my electricity so I was dying after I would come out of practice. I've also been able to afford the other things that athletes need, I was able to get massages and get my chiropractor to work on me. Those things are things your body needs as an athlete. Now I'm living life, I got a car now, before I had a

scooter. It's amazing what a little bit more support can do for you.

USA Track & Field were my main sponsors coming out (of college). I got the grants that they do for athletes and I just think that's a wonderful thing because without that USA grant my first couple of years, I probably wouldn't be sitting here. I know I wouldn't. I'm just very thankful (for the USATF grants).

It May Have Rained In Iowa, But The NCAA Division I T&F Meet Was A Success

Thirteen Officials from the Pacific Association and veterans of the past three years in Sacramento followed

the NCAA Division I Track and Field Championships to Des Moines, Iowa. On Wednesday, June 11th, the first day of the championships, it was not hard to find a familiar face as the large delegation of Pacific Association officials collected on the track for the first day of competition at Drake University. The track venue on the Drake campus is located up the hill from downtown Des Moines and more than a mile from the nearest flooded area. The stadium, with a seating capacity of approximately 18,000, has recently been renovated with new field event venues installed and a super fast Mondo track added. The three long throwing events were all held on venues outside the stadium. The landing area in the sectors was very wet.

The days immediately prior to our arrival found southeastern Iowa receiving extraordinary amounts of rainfall. We found several city streets near the airport closed upon our arrival and followed several detours to reach the Drake campus. Wednesday morning the first day of competition found threatening dark skies over the stadium as the decathletes were warming up for the 100 meters. "Mother Nature" did not let the visiting officials down: she started her show as the 100 meters was being concluded. For the next two hours plus the athletes, coaches and officials watched the thunder storm from inside the Drake Field House. At approximately 1:00 p.m., the skies cleared and the meet progressed without any more rain delays. Wednesday night was a night of limited sleep for most officials as "Mother Nature" again took over the late night theater with a thunder and lighting show. During the night three inches of rain fell on the campus.

Thursday morning the officials arrive on the track in a very pessimistic mood as the weather forecast was not encouraging and the skies were very ominous and the winds were strong. We somehow made it through the day unscathed. The remaining two days of the meet were held under sunny blue skies with light winds aiding the athletes in their performances.

The Drake meet management team put on a very well managed meet following a very different time schedule than we experienced in Sacramento. The Saturday live TV time schedule was tight but workable. The field events were all completed on time. The visiting officials were all treated well and by the second day of competition most were accepted as part of the crew. The dormitory accommodations were comparable to Sacramento State and the meals were served in a timely manner offering a variety of choices for the officials.

Officials from the Pacific Association working the meet were: **Pat Randall** and **Dennis Boyle**, combined events; **Tiffany Banks**, starter; **Deri** and **John Bowen**, shot; **Rory Osborne**, Marshal; **Dick Cochran**, long throws; **George Kleeman**, weights and measures; **Shirley Connors** and **Teddy Hayes**, Horizontal Jumps:

Bob Podkaminer and **Sean Laughlin**, meet management; and **Dick Connors**, clerk of the course.

Again the athletes put on a remarkable show. The competition was fierce and the performances outstanding. CBS had a TV coverage on Friday and Saturday. They did a good job with their presentation. The team title for the Women's Championship was not determined until the finish of the 4 X 400 meter relay where LSU prevailed over Arizona State. The winner of the men's championship was known after the completion of the men's 200 meters and Walter Dix's (Florida State) victory.

This year's NCAA Championship had lots of memorable moments and the athletes certainly did not let anyone down, but the constant weather threat of the first two days definitely put everyone on edge until the completion of the competition.- R.L.C.

Missing From The Track



Bruce Rosenblatt

Bruce Rosenblatt was a certified official who was an umpire and worked the finish line and field events. He was granted Emeritus status earlier this year. This obituary appeared in slightly different form in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Bruce Albert Rosenblatt, born April 30, 1928 in San Francisco passed away peacefully on March 8, 2008. Bruce was raised in Berkeley,

graduated from Berkeley High and then attended Whitman College in Washington for two years. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in letters and science in mathematics. Bruce served his country in the Army. He was a dedicated employee of Chevron Oil for 40 years in Computer Information Systems. He was a pioneer in computer sciences and co-authored the PL/1 programming language.

After retiring he enjoyed dedicating his time to the I Have a Dream and BUILD programs which both inspire Oakland youth. In Bruce's commitment to education he introduced scholarship programs at Cal State East Bay and San Francisco State University. He was an avid bridge player and loved to travel. Bruce especially enjoyed spending time with and participating in the activities of his children and grandchildren.

Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Marie; his daughter Karen, married to Ed Schelegle with children, Aaron, Dustin, and Sierra; daughter Lynn, married to Bob Branstad with children, Craig and Jenna; daughter, Nancy, married to Kenny Findeisen with

daughter Mackenzie; and sister Marcy Meyer of Sacramento.

A memorial Service was held on March 30, 2008 at the Veteran's Memorial in Lafayette.

Memorial donations may be made to U.C. Berkeley Track and Field and payable to U.C. Regents c/o Tony Sandoval, 77 Haas Pavilion, Berkeley, CA 94720 or the BUILD program in honor of Bruce Rosenblatt to BUILD, 1600 Adams Dr. Menlo Park, CA 54035 (online at www.Build.org).

Jim Vanden Heuvel was a certified official and heavily involved with PA Youth Athletics as head coach of the Reno Tahoe Athletics Club and meet director for a youth meet held over Memorial Day weekend each year. This obituary was published in the [Reno Gazette-Journal](#), 3/23/2008



Jim Vanden Heuvel

Jim Vanden Heuvel, 52, passed away suddenly March 17, 2008. He was born in Albert Lea, MN on June 29, 1955 to the late Barbara LaPlante DeVaux and Edward Vanden Heuvel. He leaves his wonderful son and best friend, Zachary of Reno, NV who was his everything; sisters, Kim Greenleaf of Lakeland, FL, Gail Bray of Windsor, CT and Joanne Beaulieu of South Windsor, CT; brothers, Neal DeVaux of South Windsor, CT, and Tm Ron (Skip) DeVaux of Katy, TX; stepfather, Ron DeVaux of Ormond Beach, FL. He will be dearly missed by his eight nieces and nephews, several aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and his devoted Reno family, Jeffrey and Natalie Weitzman and their children Rand, Nanatte and Netanya.

Jim grew up in East Hartford, CT, earned his Bachelor degree from Rutgers University and his MBA from the University of Arizona. He held post graduate certificates from the University of Massachusetts, the University of California and New York University. He spent 27 years in the sports management, sports marketing and event marketing industries.

Jim moved to Reno in 1995 and while he took great pride in his marketing and management career he found his greatest joy in coaching young track and field athletes and giving them the opportunity to showcase their skills. Jim's tireless efforts for the Silver State Games, Nevada Trackfest and the national Junior Olympic Cross Country Championships just to name a few helped hundreds of young athletes perform at the highest level. Jim was most recently coaching the track and field athletes at Bishop Manogue High School.

Jim's other tireless passion was his vision to bring the Olympic Winter Games back to Reno/Tahoe. At the time

of his passing, Jim was serving as the CEO of the Reno Tahoe Winter Games Coalition and the Reno Tahoe International Sports Council. Jim's years of service on numerous United States Olympic National Governing Boards and the many national and international contacts he made have put the region in position to achieve his vision of hosting the Games.

The family requests that donations be made to a scholarship fund set up for Jim's son, Zack Vanden Heuvel. Donations can be made at any branch of First National Bank of Nevada.

The 2009 Track and Field Schedule for the Pacific Association.

Trying to get a running start on the 2009 calendar your editor hosted a 6:15 a.m. breakfast meeting for the Division I NCAA coaches from Northern California. The meeting was held in Woodland Hills near the site of the Western Regional Championships with eight coaches in attendance. The meeting was organized in an attempt to put together a better 2009 track and field calendar. The meeting was encouraging with a great deal positive talk and the sharing of dates and ideas for meets. The Stanford Invitational is the key meet on the calendar. Most other meets are scheduled following its position. The 2009 Stanford Invitational will move back to the last weekend in March. (March 28th and 29th) The same weekend the California/Nevada State Meet will take place at UCLA. Other early season dates already determined are the Pole Vault Summit in Reno on January 3rd and 4th and the "Run for a Dream" Indoor meet in Fresno's Save Mart Center on January 17th and 18th.

- **Bill Hawkes** is again this year collecting dates for the association master calendar. Bill may be contacted by e-mail at Flojo1049@yahoo.com or 408-736-7935.
- **Becky Klein** is again preparing the **2008 fall/cross country calendar**. Coaches: send her your meet schedules at hoopwalk@comcast.net



Photography by Connors
The Gill implement carrier? I don't know what it was used for, but it is cute!

Conversations with Elders: Five Questions for Don Wilson...by Bruce Colman



Don Wilson

Joan and Don Wilson are Emeritus Officials. Up through the late 1990s they handled long throws at Cal, Stanford, UC Davis and Reno—and around the US. Turns and Distances asked them a few questions about their careers. Joan's answers were published in T & D's last issue; these are Don's answers.

T&D: How did you get started in track and field officiating?

Don: Joan was the Office manager of the PAAU after it moved from San Francisco to Alameda. She re-instituted the AAUJOT&F Championships. Our youngest son decided to give up his champion's reign in swimming, so I asked him if he would like to try track and field. With his Yes! Answer, I started training him in the Shot Put and Discus Throw. The PA-AAU Jr. Championships was the first T&F meet that I officiated. After that, I began taking our son to All Comers meets at both Cal and Los Gatos, and either officiated or coached our son and a few other Juniors. I was very soon chosen to officiate Shot Put, Discus, javelin, and hammer Throw at the Cal meets, and that led to officiating all over



Photography by Youmans

Rory Osborne got some flag time running his handy dandy wind gage at Sacramento State.

California.

T&D: You have been involved in another sport-weight lifting. How did you start there? What are the similarities between working the two sports? What are the significant differences between the two sports?

Don: I began Weightlifting (WL) as a teenager to help me in the several other sports I participated in – T&F (1/2 mile and mile runs, long jump and high jump), swimming, baseball (catcher primarily), industrial League Football, wrestling and Weightlifting. I continued competing in WL for 20 years, and also became Chairman of PAAAU WL Committee, a national Referee while also coaching, conducting clinics, and raising to International Referee, where I officiated national, Pan American, World Championships and Olympic Games and the Goodwill Games.

The “similarities” of WL and T&FR – especially the Throws – is that the development of POWER (strength and speed) combined are required in both. In competition for both, an explosive, strong series of single attempts is performed.

The “significant difference” in the two sports are: WL is usually conducted indoors, while the Throws are conducted outdoors. Officiating WL, requires sitting in front of a platform upon which the athlete will be lifting weights overhead rapidly, and hopefully the lifter doesn't run forward and drop the weight on the Referee. Whereas, the Throws requires a lot of walking, running, bending, etc. while in the weather elements of the day. They both can be very exciting however.

T&D: Officiating cannot take all of one's time-can it? Tell us about your “day jobs!”

Don; In a past life I was a Firefighter, among other things. Since I am no long officiating T&F and Highland Games Heavy Events, we still continue to help our elderly widow friends and an elderly man when and where they need our help (and that can be often). Once in a while however, we have to take time for ourselves, so we've taken some very nice train trips, and a cruise or two, along with trailer trips.

T&D: You were involved in the Atlantic Olympics. What was the high point of your officiating career?

Don: Yes, I was very fortunate to be selected for the Atlanta Olympics. In 1984, I was the competition Manager and an International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Official for WL in Los Angeles. I also was the Coordinator of

International Officials (for WL) and the IWF 's Congress. Obviously, this was a real highlight of my sporting and officiating career.

Then, in 1996-Atlanta-T&F; I had to submit my name for it and fortunately I was accepted. WL asked me to serve them again, but I had the opportunity to tell them that T&F asked me first. Now, the real reasons I wanted T&F so much were: We had hoped our youngest son would have been on the team for the Hammer Throw and/or the Discus Throw. Unfortunately, that could no longer happen. But, I had also been a small part of Hammer Throw careers of two young men who competed in the Trails and made the Team. [Much to the late Rich Zulaica's consternation, those two young men came up to me with tearful eyes of happiness right after they knew they had made the Olympic Team, and hugged me and thanked me for being a part of their success. I was extremely proud of them, and thankful for their thanks, especially since they knew and admired our young David, who was on their same team.] So, I would have to state that both Olympic Games that I was chosen to officiate in two separate sports were- highlights of my officiating careers. However, the '96 Games' Throws were extremely emotional as well for the reasons cited above.

T&D: Finally, the obvious: your advice for a new official in the throws?

Don: There is no one word, but, I will mention a few:

- a- Read and know the rules of your event(s);
- b- Listen to and watch any and all officials you are working with, so you can emulate their proficiency. Ask questions of them when necessary;
- c- Always remain alert, whether it's warm-up or actual competition. The throws are T&F's "weapons of war". They have been known to injure, maim and kill;
- d- Always strive to be as accurate and expedient in a positive safe manner, as you can possibly be;
- e- Always be fair. Treat each athlete with respect, and they should respect you in return;
- f- Protect any exposed body part from the sun. Many T&F officials suffer from sun-caused skin lesions;
- g- Plan on a long career. Officiating is a wonderful sport and you get to work with a large group of wonderful, like-minded people.

A Diary by an Olympic Trials Official...by Charles Murphy (a member of the horizontal jump crew).

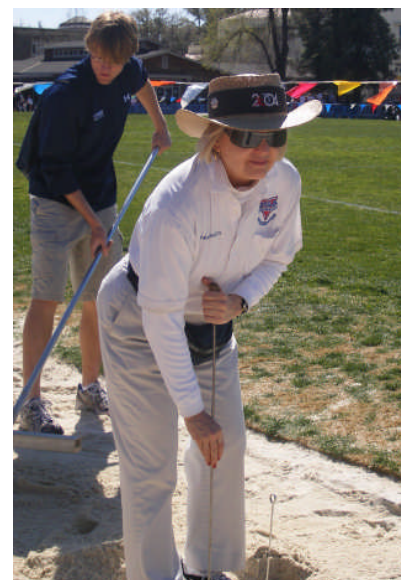
Wednesday, June 26, 2008: Check in Day: I picked up Jeannie White and John Shirey and proceeded north to Eugene. Jeannie was up at 1:00 AM preparing fried chicken, spaghetti, garlic bread, sliced fruit and green salad for our lunch. We stopped somewhere past Medford and enjoyed the meal. As we proceeded north of Sacramento, we noticed the smoke in the air was getting thicker the farther we went. About 30 miles outside of Redding it was sooooo bad it looked like fog. Some cars had their lights on. After we passed Redding, it cleared up.

Upon checking in at Carson Dorm, we received our credentials, 2008 USATF rules book, a new identification card, a dining hall card, a pair of Nike shoes, a red USATF official's jacket, one blue Nike polo shirt, a straw hat, and a baseball cap. We were also instructed that for the first three days, the shirt rotation would be: Day 1, the new red and blue USATF polo shirt; Days 2 and 3, the Nike blue polo shirts.

Day One: June 27: At 8:00 a.m. went to track to prepare plasticine boards (about three hours). Our first event went off at 5:40 p.m., Women's Qualifying Triple Jump followed by Men's Qualifying Long Jump at 7:30 p.m.. Both went off with little to no problems.

After wearing the NEW national shirt the 1st day, either Nike or someone else did not like the look. So, as of this date we have not worn the national shirt we all were told to buy and must have. Also we were told to bring the old national shirt (which we have yet to wear).

Day Two: June 28: Was told that second Nike blue polo has not arrived but we are still wearing them on day two and three; very hot, pushing 100 degrees; Women's Heptathlon, Long Jump at 2:00 p.m. Some officials are wondering why smoke is drifting in the air. Local stations next day say it was from the California fires. As of this date sky is filled with haze. Day ends with several officials hanging out at "Taylor's" for liquid refreshments.



Photography by Hume

Jeanne Sanders marks the long jump. Without a mark there is no measurement. Without a measurement, there no result.

Day Three: June 29: Very hot and humid, at least in 100's; a woman faints at the discus and taken to hospital for observation; meet management still has not said what shirt we will wear on day 4; food is great but some officials grumbling on decisions made or not made; we go out for Men's Decathlon Long Jump at 10:50 followed by Women's Triple Jump Finals at 2:25 p.m.

Day Four: June 30: As of breakfast, no one knew what shirts we were wearing. The shipment still has not arrived from Portland (which is 113 miles away) and mumbling is to wear the new national shirts. Because we have a late start today, most officials set out to explore, shop, or do laundry. I came back at 4:00 p.m. and hear the shirts are in and go to the track immediately to get the additional two Nike shirts, one of which we are to wear tonight. Unfortunately some officials were still out or working on the field and did not get the information. Some officials were on the field with the Nike shirt and some showed up in the national shirts. By 6:00 p.m. all were in compliance.



Photography by Connors

Charles Murphy preparing a plasticine board.

July 1: First Off Day: I went to Portland to visit a friend the first half of the day. At 5:30 Stephanie Hightower had an outing for all officials. Those who chose were taken (by three buses) to a winery about twenty-five miles away (Pfeiffer Winery) and treated to the most enjoyable evening anyone could imagine.

When all buses were unloaded we were given a personal wine glass. They said the hayride scheduled was cancelled so we would be taking a walk in the rainforest. As we entered we were served a Vigonier wine (white) which completely floored me. It was excellent. As we continued we were greeted by ladies holding serving trays. One had wrapped shrimp, another had crackers

with cheese, another had stuffed tomatoes, and finally a table with grapes, cheeses, cut fruit, pâté, etc. These stations were about 50 yards apart as you walk. Also there was another station that served a Blushing Bride Rosé. This winery does not mass distribute. They have their buyers and that's it. After the rainforest we were seated outside at tables and served salads and pasta and poured 2006 Pinot Gris. The first entree was Poached Salmon topped with red pepper coulis served with rice medley and stuffed roma tomatoes. The wine served was 2006 Blue Dot Reserve Pinot Noir. The second entree was Herb Encrusted Pork Loin Roulade served with apple-hazelnut compote, grilled eggplant and rosemary red potatoes. The palette cleanser was honeyed yogurt topped with fresh berries.

We then went to the Barrel Tasting Room where we tasted infant Pinot Noir and were given a lesson on how to drink and enjoy the wine you select.

We then had dessert on the patio: Chocolate mousse layered with fruit berries and elegantly presented in a tall champagne glass.

Oh! I forgot; they presented each official with a wooden Nike pen and pencil set.

Oh what a night.

July 2 Second Day Off: I took four other officials to Florence for an early Casino day (Three Rivers). The latter part of the day we went to a Division A minor league baseball game, the Eugene Emeralds (San Diego Padres) vs. Salem Volcanoes (SF Giants). Volcanoes won 5-2.

Day 5 July 3: Got a late start; late breakfast; took Jeannie to Adidas store to shop for tee shirts; spent an hour or so.

Let's go back to check in day. This guy, who has blond dreadlocks, is all over the place. He has a credential around his neck and is seen in the restricted dorm (Carson) and at the track venues. Everyone assumed he is a coach and has some kind of contact with him.

It's 3:00 p.m. and time to head to the stadium to prepare boards for tonight's Long Jump Finals. Find one jump board has a stripped insert which makes it unusable until Gil people repair it. Report to Officials area for assembly; wearing the Nike blue shirts again; more mumbling about the shirts that have NO reference to the trials at all. Many officials want the green polo the volunteers have because it has "Eugene 08 Olympic Trials" on the sleeve.

Grace Upshaw jumps a 6.88 and holds the lead up to the second to last jump in the competition. Brittany Reese unloads a 6.92 jump with Grace to follow. Grace fails to improve and takes second. Erica McLain never makes the finals.

After the event Michelle Walker, Larry Callahan, and myself cruise the midway looking for freebies and pins. Tyson has pins and we load up. About 10:15 p.m. we head to Carson.

Upon arrival two campus police come riding into the dorms and ask some people "Where is he?" They proceed to go to the TV room and pull the dreadlock guy out. After about 45 minutes of questioning they find out not only was he NOT a coach or on staff, but was going up in a secured elevator and staying in the fourth-floor laundry room. They said he was thrown off campus and never to return.

I then stayed up playing cards and dominos.

Day 6 July 4: Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.

All officials were asked to be at the track at 10:00 a.m. for photo session.

Went to Clinic on Evolution of Rules since 1910 given by **Eric Zemper**.

12:30 relaxed in dorm until 3:45.

4:00 arrived at track to change out jump boards and prepare plasticine boards.

5:10 Arrive at officials area for assembly.

7:10 Men's Triple Jump Qualifying, I'm at board.

10:00 Fireworks display at stadium.

11:00 retire for evening.



Photography by Hume

Al Hernandez runs the ICG Implement Inspection.

Day 7 July 5: Well, today is a rest day for both horizontal crews. Billy Walters' crew will do the Men's triple jump finals on Sunday and we will have a day off. Two of our crew members will rake for Billy and the rest are in the pool.

Today I took a different crew to Florence to make a deposit at the local Indian Casino. We stayed about eight

hours. I played Texas Hold'em and could not catch a hand in the three hours I played. We rushed back to consume our last dinner at the dining hall of roasted chicken, pork loin, potatoes, green salad, rice, and assorted deserts. After the meet we will go to a watering hole and bond before our goodbyes.

This is the last communication from Eugene 08. I plan to leave for home tomorrow morning. Hope you enjoyed these tid bits the past few days, and hope I get a chance to do more.

This is Charles Cameron Swayze Murphy saying good night.

High School 2009 Track And Field Rules Changes For Starting Races

This review of the new high school rules does not show the new wording, but it is important for the rule changes which no longer allow an open barrel on a pistol, but do allow .32 and .22 caliber pistols to be used with FAT timing.

3-9-2 - Specifies that for gun starts only a closed barreled starter's pistol may be used by the starter. **Rationale:** It is not appropriate to use a live weapon at an educational event and in most cases state law prohibits firearms on school grounds and school events. The starter's pistol is adequate to produce the desired result for the starting of a race.

3-9-9 new - Indoor and outdoor meets using fully automatic timing (FAT) may be started by a .32 or .22 caliber starter's pistol (closed barrel) or electronic, gun less devise for record purposes.

Rationale: The FAT systems do not require the noise of a .32 caliber, and a .22 caliber is clearly heard by competitors and provides adequate smoke for manual timing.

Olympic Trials Eugene '08...by Bob Rush

Job at the trials: Video taping for High Performance Men's and Women's Hurdles.

Although we were not assigned to video taping for High Performance, John McNichols and Jeff Martin from Indiana State and I were assign to do all the touch downs, lead legs, and stride patterns for all the hurdle races. We also video taped as a back up to the regular video operators.



Photography by Hume

Joe Harper loves to gets things going.

During the finals of the Women's 400 Hurdles, I was assigned to video Lanes 7 and 8. We were seated just above hurdle number 7. During the process of timing the touchdown times I caught the outside official (the umpire) out of the corner of my eye, raise the yellow flag. I didn't think much about it until later. Out of curiosity, I went back to study the film in Dartfish (software which allows you to do all sorts of things with a video film...a great teaching tool) to see if I could see the violation. The official was looking directly at hurdle seven, lane seven. I could see that the hurdler in lane seven had "hooked" the hurdle. When the results came out they had disqualified the hurdler in Lane 2 not lane 7.

I could see the hurdler in Lane 2 and there was no apparent foul and the inside official looked directly at Lane 2 and did not raise a flag.

After a couple of phone calls and some discussion way after the fact, it was discovered that the officials were looking at an outdated heat sheet. Wallace, who was in Lane 7 on the old heat sheet had moved to Lane 2 in the finals. So they had mistakenly disqualified the wrong person. It all got straightened out and Wallace was reinstated and given her rightful place of 6th. I am sure that the change in results was to her financial advantage. She owes me a beer.



Photography by Youmans
Pat Randall was caught setting up the high jump

Received from the Youth Committee's Officials Chair

The PA/USATF Youth Board would like to thank all the officials who came out to help with the Pacific Association and Region 14 meets in Livermore this year.

We had over 30 certified officials come out, which covered every venue at the meets. With so many officials the meet ran really smoothly; the athletes, the parents and the coaches were grateful to see so many officials come out and help.

This year we added two new officials to our team: **Jerry Colman** who was our meet referee and **Ajay. Padgaonkar** who officiated the race walk and the turbo javelin.

Again thank you to every one who showed up and we hope to see you next year.

Thank you
Maria Castillo
Youth Officials Chair

PA Officials Chair's comment: the Youth Committee treated us beautifully, with housing at the Hampton Inn; skilled volunteer help at our venues, lunches we enjoyed, and plenty of water in the 90-plus-degree heat. **Leon Wimbley** also deserves special mention: first to the stadium each day, for the long throws, and last to leave in the evenings, which is what happens when you must throw all the divisions of the mini-javelin and javelin one day, and all the divisions of the discus the next.

Officials attend clinics at the Trails

Saturday morning 8:30 a.m., the competition does not start for another four hours, but on this beautiful clear day twenty officials have gathered in the officials call room for a clinic session being taught by **Gloria and Doug Winemiller** from Philadelphia. This is the fourth Olympic Team Trials for the Winemillers as horizontal jump officials. They are definitely experienced veterans at their craft. The curriculum they are teaching this morning deals with organization of a horizontal jumps crew at a major competition, the assignment of responsibilities and preparation, maintenance of plasticine foul boards. [It is unlikely you will use plasticine at the horizontal jump board except at a USATF nationals.]

Several of the officials in attendance are working their first National level competition while others are veterans from other crews wishing to learn new skills and support the Winemillers. Following the demonstrations Doug let the official students get their hand dirty working to prepare boards to be used later in the day at the competition.

The maintenance, preparation, repairing and reading this type of foul board is a new skill that needs to be learned by the Master Official.

Charles Murphy, Teddy Hayes and other in our Association have learned the plasticine skills. Doug Winemiller from Philadelphia and Bill Wright and David Dumas from Texas are true experts in board preparation.

The second clinic of the week took place on Monday morning again at 8:30 and this time Shelby Sharpe from



Photography by Hume
If **Teddy Hayes** says it's a legal jump, you'll see his flags a flyin'!

East Texas was presenting his recently published paper: *Protocols to Minimize Injury, Death and Bad Results at the Courthouse for Track and Field Officials*. Mr. Sharpe is a practicing insurance attorney and an active track and field official who usually is a very active marshal on the playing field. Shelby opened the eyes of the officials by telling them they are responsible for two rule books while working track meets. Not only are officials responsible for the track and field rules that we enforce to assure fair play in the competition, but the superior courts judges rule book.

“What would a reasonable person have done in those circumstances?” We as officials are responsible for the safety of the competitors competing on our respective venues.

Shelby has designed an official’s check list for field safety as well as a protocol card for throws officials to be signed off on for liability purposes.

Shirley Connor has brought back copies if you want to read the whole article.

The third clinic of the week was presented by **Dr. Eric Zemper** PhD. Dr Zemper presented his recently completed paper on the history of track and field rule books 1907-1956.

The concluding clinic of the Trials was a field demonstration with hands on activities for officials on how to run the transit in the Field Links measuring system. There were four officials to lead this clinic: Mark Heckel, Justin Quo, Eric Smith and **J.R. Heberle**. This was the best attended session of the week with many officials getting a chance to actually get their hands on the equipment. The Field Lynx equipment was the official measuring device used in all the long throwing events at the Trials. The training committee must be thanked as well as the instructor for putting on excellent programs.

Notes and Reflections on the U.S. Olympic Team Trials...by John Shirey

On the morning of June 26 as Charles Murphy, Jeannie White, and I headed north on I-5 toward Redding on our way to Eugene, Oregon, we drove in a relatively thick fog. Except it wasn’t fog. It was smoke—smoke from hundreds of wild fires burning in northern California.

We were glad when we reached the mountains north of Redding and then the green countryside and blue skies of Oregon. Throughout the Trials I kept thinking what if this meet had been held in Sacramento, the site of the last two Olympic Trials and the preferred site of many of us in the Pacific Association. With the very unhealthy air hanging over the Sacramento Valley for weeks, would the Trials have had to be postponed or relocated at the last minute? What chaos would that have caused!

Even though the smoke of California was blown to Eugene, the Trials were completed on schedule and in relatively good weather conditions. Despite our unhappiness with USATF over the way the award of the Trials to Eugene was handled, perhaps we should feel fortunate that the 2008 Trials were not held in Sacramento, as it turned out. If they had, we might not have gotten another major meet in the future.

Tracktown, USA - Eugene bills itself as “Tracktown USA,” and in many ways it deserves the title. Every day of the Trials the stands of historic Hayward Field (named for the long-time University of Oregon track coach who preceded the better-known Bill Bowerman) were packed with over 20,000 fans, and they were enthusiastic and committed to the sport. One incident makes the point.

On the first day of competition the schedule of



John Shirey at Pre’s Rock.

Photography by Shirey

mostly preliminary events ended with two men’s 5000 meter semi-finals and the final of the women’s 10,000 meter run. Those events followed several exciting and competitive men’s and women’s 800 meter quarterfinals. After those races were over and it came time for the 5000’s, I noticed an unusual thing about the capacity crowd in the stadium—no one had left! And, after those distance runs were completed, seemingly no one left before the long 10,000. Those are devoted track and field fans.

Another thing that gives Eugene some right to call itself Tracktown USA is the coverage given to track and field by the local newspaper. Every day of the Trials, *The Register-Guard* published a special eight-page section devoted solely to the Trials. That was in addition to front-page stories and photos. In addition to extensive coverage of results, there were behind-the-scenes stories, news about local athletes, schedules, predictions, personal stories of athletes, etc.—everything a track and field fan could ask for in news!

Pre’s Rock - On the Fourth of July another official and I decided we would visit “Pre’s Rock,” the memorial

site where Steve Prefontaine, the famed Oregon distance runner lost his life when his MG left the road, hit a rock wall and overturned. In spite of the fact that unfortunate incident occurred 33 years ago, his legend lives on in Oregon and especially in Eugene. “Go Pre” yellow t-shirts are common sights.

When we reached the rock and the marble marker, a group of people—obvious runners and track fans—were gathered around talking, sharing stories and viewing the numerous track singlets and t-shirts, shoes, ribbons, medals, bib numbers, “Livestrong” bracelets, and assorted items that had been left there by others in honor of the popular runner. A woman reached out her hand to me and introduced herself. She said her name was Neta Prefontaine. For a second I was stunned wondering who it was I was standing face-to-face with. It turned out to be Steve’s older sister who had come that day with her two young grandchildren to greet visitors and to relate stories about her brother.

Nine years his senior, Neta Prefontaine said her brother as a small boy never thought he was good at anything, particularly in sports. One day he realized that he was a little faster runner than other boys and said he might try running. To encourage him and to boost his ego, Neta said she told him that she thought he would grow up to be a star. And, of course with much hard work, he did. My visit to Pre’s Rock was a special moment.



Photography by Hume

Dave Soeth counts laps and umpires at the Golden West

Recreation - One of the great assets of Eugene is the many miles of improved bike paths and running trails along the scenic and fast-moving Willamette River. These are easily accessed from the University of Oregon campus where we stayed, and I took advantage of that resource several mornings. One network of trails is made of packed earth covered with shredded tree bark which is particularly easy on old knees! It is known as “Pre’s Trail.”

It seemed to me that every resident of Eugene must be a runner, walker, or bicyclist. Those paths were always crowded.

A surprising moment occurred one morning when I spotted a bald eagle perched high in a dead tree looking for his breakfast in the river below. We don’t see real eagles in Sacramento!

Sub-Four - One downside of the daily sell-out crowds at the Stadium was that officials were not given seats to watch the events when we were not working. One evening, though, a friend of mine from Eugene handed me a free ticket to that day’s session—row 1, seat 1 in a corner section. As I sat enjoying the events, I noticed that another long-time official friend from Southern California, **Bob Seaman**, was sitting nearby. He was not attending the Trials as an official, however. When I had the chance to greet him afterward, I asked if he was there for the entire meet. He explained that he was there only that day and to attend a special reunion of all of America’s sub-four-minute milers. (Bob was a star miler at UCLA in his day.) He said that Jim Grelle, Jim Beatty, Steve Scott, and others had attended the reunion event. I thought to myself, wouldn’t it be special to be a member of that elite alumni group, or to have been able to attend that event!

Highlights - There is no doubt in my mind that the United States is sending a strong track and field team to Beijing. Even though there were disappointments such as John Godina’s poor showing in the discus (does he wish he had stayed with the shot put?!) and Tyson Gay’s injury in the 200, there were many outstanding performances. A few of the memorable performances that stick in my mind were as follows:

- Tyson Gay’s 9.68-second 100-meter dash, the fastest of all time. Even though the wind-aided performance will not be counted as a record, it was exciting to see a human being move that fast. (Will Tyson’s later injury in the 200 keep him from doing great things in Beijing?)
- Jenn Stuczynski’s American Record in the pole vault of 16’ 1¾” (4.92m) after nearly no-heighting at her opening bar. I had the honor of measuring that record. (As great a moment as that was, it was also sad to see the world’s “First Lady” of pole vaulting, Stacy Dragila, not make the team.)
- Three runners from Oregon—Nick Symmonds, U of O sophomore Andrew Wheating, and Christian Smith—sweeping the men’s 800 meters and beating four-time US champion Khadevis Robinson in the process. The crowd went wild!
- California high school pixie Jordan Hasay, long blonde hair swishing behind her all the way, running a very smart 1500-meter semi-final against a far more experienced field, and with raucous fan encouragement, setting an American high school

record of 4:14.50. She was definitely the crowd favorite.

It was a great honor to once again officiate the U.S. Olympic Team Trials, and I was proud to represent the Pacific Association along with Tiffany Banks, Shirley Connors, Charles Murphy, John Murray, Rory Osborne, Jeannie White, Terry Crawford, Dick Connors, George Kleeman, and Bob Podkaminer. Bob Rush, Bill Hawks, Sue Murray and J.R. Heberle were among the green shirted volunteers at the meet.

Reflections on the International Children's Games (ICG)...by Jim Hume

Rick Milam didn't have enough to do this summer, so he accepted the chore of organizing the track and field portion of the International Children's Games which were held at San Francisco's Kezar Stadium. I'm no expert on the organization of the ICG, but, thanks to information from **Sonny Maynard** who talked to one of the ICG staff, here is what I know.



Rick Milam, Director of ICG T&F.

- The children of ICG are from 12 to 15 years old. There are, "not born before or not born after dates" here.
- The local organizing committee pays for everything once the children and staffs arrive in San Francisco, but each delegation is responsible for

their own travel expenses. The International in ICG means that the travel was considerable for some delegations. There were some really fine athletes represented here. The 375 athletes came from Australia, England, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Romania, Scotland, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, USA, and Vietnam. The teams represent cities rather than countries with several from Germany, USA and Slovakia.

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- The clerks might have had the most difficult time with the language barriers. **Bill Pratt** and **Leroy Milam** did yeoman work getting the athletes into the correct lanes at the start line.
- The host city gets to select some of the sports which will be contested in this multi-sport competition, but there are some "core sports" and track and field is one of the core sports. In San Francisco I know of the following sports: track and field, swimming, basketball, soccer and golf.
- Although the athletes range in age from 12 to 15, they compete together.
- This was not a full track meet as there was competition in only the 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, long jump, high jump, shot put and the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.
- Thanks to **Sean Laughlin's** toy collection, as soon as an event was completed, the results were posted on the ICG web site, thus allowing parents from all over the world to follow their children's performances in almost real time.



Photography by Hume

This is how **John Lilygren** earned his "Hume's Hero Award" for using the PalmPilot and recording the entire girl's ICG high jump with Field Lynx.

- While there were some administrative glitches which accompany an organization hosting a new event for their first and only time, Rick Milam and George Kleeman did a magnificent job pretty much accommodating everyone.
- Was this meet like all meets of athletes this age, or were the entries dictated by the limited number of events? It seemed that everyone believed they were sprinters as there were 10 heats of the 100m and three full flights of long jumpers for the girls and eight

heats of the 100m for the boys and four full flights of long jumpers. There were three rounds in the 800m for the boys (two on the first day)

- Next year the meet travels to Dubai and then to Greece. I had so much fun that I'll volunteer for the meet the next time it comes around.



Photography by Youman

The long jump brain trust at the Golden West...**Shirley Connors, John Shirey, Allen Smith and Robert Benoy.**

The Pacific Association Is Searching For A New Certification Chair...by Jim Hume

Yes, it's true; the Pacific Association is searching for a new Certification Chair for I plan to retire as of the annual meeting in 2009. When thinking about the criteria, I came up with these thoughts:

- This is an **appointed** position—by the officials' chair—not an elected position, and you really should commit yourself through the initial re-certification of officials in 2012.
- These skills might be found in a committee of people, but in the end, the buck stops with you.
- It is not required that you teach certification clinics, but you will want to be at all clinics so that you can check for accuracy and collect the paperwork you need to complete the certification procedures.
- Do you have a computer with reasonably fast access to the internet? Much of your communication and all of your certification is done on the internet. The chair of the national certification committee has a web site. You sign in and fill out the database form on line. The chair sends you the badges and you mail them out.
- You are the final arbiter and court of last resort for who is an official or not, so you need to keep a good database. At the moment the file is in Microsoft's **Access**. Speaking of Microsoft, you will need a copy of Microsoft's Office for you need both **Word** and **Excel**. I'll bring a CD with the file to the Changing of the Guard ceremony in '09.

- You need a digital camera and need to know something about how to manipulate pictures. There are no badges without pictures. All of the pictures will be on the aforementioned CD, or several CDs depending on how large the file becomes.
 - There are times of the year when you have more activity than others, but you need to have the time on a weekly basis to clean up the accumulated paper work. Except for the busy times of the year, read clinic season, an hour a week should be sufficient.
- I know there is more stuff; I just didn't want you to get tired of reading before I made my big pitch. If you are interested in becoming the certification chair, you should immediately volunteer to shadow/assist me during the next year. This is an easier way to enter the job than to learn all the "in and outs of the job" by yourself.**

- As certification chair you will receive communication from various USATF officials looking for your recommendations for awards. You also get the vote on these. It is a good idea to consult with others within the association. One of your big chores each year is to evaluate the skills, from our association's view, of those officials who apply to work national meets. This is really an area where you should have a committee to talk these through. You can kill an official's opportunity to work a national meet, yet...you don't want to give a sterling recommendation to an official who is not ready, for it will reflect poorly on our association and you.
- Would you like to go to the convention and actually have a committee vote? The certification chair has a vote in the Official's Committee. This is most useful every time we elect national officers. If you are active with the Board of Athletics, you could be a delegate and have a vote in the convention.
- Would you like to be on the Executive Committee of the Pacific Association's Officials Committee? The certification chair has a vote.
- If we ever hold another USATF senior championship meet, you are a part of the selection committee for officials. You get ½ a vote and the meet director gets the other ½ of a vote as representatives of the host association. The selection committee meets at the convention, but before the convention begins. No, being on the selection committee does not get you a ticket into the meet.

No, being the Certification Chair does not take a super hero, it just takes a semi organized plugger with basic computer and photographic skills. Why don't y'all consider joinin' up now? Just contact our honorable chair (Bruce Colman chairbc@earthlink.net) or me (Jim Hume at jimhume.certchair@sbcglobal.net). I'll make you a nice Word file of pretty business cards.

Principal Official Committee Contacts

- **Official's Chair Bruce Colman** for general questions and comments...(415) 775 5450 or chairbc@earthlink.net
- **Certification Chair Jim Hume** for questions about certification and advancement...(650)-571-5913 or jimhume.certchair@sbcglobal.net.
- **T&D Editor Dick Connors** to submit text and for hot leads or gossip...650-341-6781 or dickconnors@comcast.net.
- **T&D Page Layout Jim Hume** to submit photos. Jimhume.certchair@sbcglobal.net

Pacific Association Office: (916) 983-4715

Pacific Association website: <http://pausatf.org/>

USATF national website: <http://www.usatf.org/>

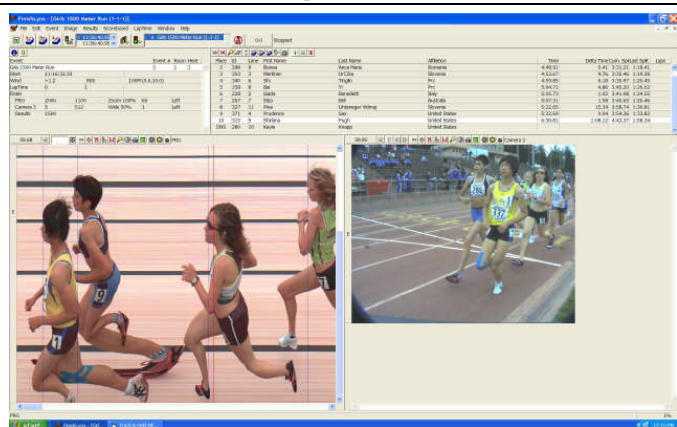
National Officials Website: <http://usatfofficials.com/>

PA Officials Committee Executive Committee 2007-09:

Bruce Colman, Chair;
Phil Watkins, Vice Chair;
Dick Connors, past chair;
Jon Siegel, Secretary;
John Murray, at large representative;
Mike Leonard at large representative;
George Kleeman, Training Chair;
Jim Hume, Certification Chair;
Dr. Leon Glover, Awards Chair.

Representatives To The Board Of Athletics

Dick Connors
Bob Podkaminer
Margaret Sheehan



Photography by Laughlin's computer

Sean Laughlin has a new toy! FinishLynx now has a camera which takes a front view of the finish line and software which coordinates the view from the typical FinishLynx camera view (left) and the Identilynx view (front). The two views are wonderful!



Photography by Hume

It's not only record holders who like to have their pictures taken in front of giant score boards. Here the Irish lasses who finished 2nd in the Girls 4x400m Relay at the ICG meet get a memento for "Show and Tell" when they get home.

Dick Connors

2065 Kings Lane,
San Mateo, CA 94402-3928

To:



The **Rec Lodge Hall** at UC Davis. When you see this you have arrived at the site of or 2008 Annual Meeting.