

## PROFESSIONAL MARATHON SWIMMING

BY: JOE GROSSMAN, Secretary, WPMSF  
World Professional Marathon  
Swimming Federation

The 1972 professional marathon swimming season has ended with a total of only four sanctioned races held — one in Italy and three in Canada's Quebec Province.

The team of Horacio Iglesias of Argentina and Johan Schans of Holland scored their second team victory in as many weeks as they won the 28-mile race from Bagotville to Chicoutimi on the Saguenay River in the time of 9 hours, 58 minutes and 17 seconds.

Iglesias, the reigning world champion, and Schans, who was the 1970 crown-wearer, had won the 24-hour race at La Tuque, Que., on the previous weekend. Iglesias was second-placer in the Capri-Naples race in early July.

The all-Syrian team of Mohamed Kahmis and Marwan Saleh were second to the Iglesias-Schans duo, finishing in 10:00.50, while Marwan Shedid of Egypt and teammate Jan Van Scheyndel of Holland were third in 10:05.35. Jon Erikson of Chicago and Raoul Villagomez of Mexico were fourth in 10:23.20, and Dennis Matuch, also of Chicago, and England's Geoffrey Lake were fifth in 10:28.24.

A total of 12 two-member teams competed in the Saguenay event, which was made a team race this year for the first time in its 10-year history. The only female entrant, Samia Mandour of Egypt, and her Syrian partner, Said Masri, were disqualified by race officials for having failed to exchange places in the water properly on four occasions.

The 18th annual crossing of Lac St. Jean, from Peribonka to Roberval, was won by Van Scheyndel — the first of only four finishers among the 23 who started the race. The 25-mile crossing was held under the worst conditions in its history, with water temperatures in the low 50s, a 40-mile-an-hour wind most of the day, and swimmers combating waves that reached seven feet in height during the race.

Van Scheyndel completed the treacherous course in 10 hours and 38 minutes, followed by Villagomez, in 11:37, and Matuch, in 11:44. A fourth swimmer, Marwan Shedid of Egypt, managed to complete the 25 miles, although he touched in after the race officially ended and his time was not reported by the race committee.

Among the swimmers forced out by the unusually bad weather conditions were favorites Iglesias and Schans and all three of the female entrants, Diana Nyad, Samia Mandour and seven-time women's world champion Judith DeNijs Van Berkel of Holland.

Missing from the marathoning scene this year was former world champion Abdel Latif Abou-Heif, a long-distance headliner since 1951. Following the Nile Arab Marathon held in Egypt in April, AMBOU/Heif was forced to abandon plans for further competition this year by a serious illness to his 11-year-old son, which required the "Crocodile of the Nile" to accompany the youngster abroad for medical treatment.

The England-to-France speed record was shaved for the second time within two months when U.S. Army Lieutenant R. Davis Hart made a 9-hour, 44-minute crossing on August 22. Hart, stationed in West Germany, erased a record set in early July by 15-year-old Lynne Cox of California. The new east bound time is within 10 minutes of Barry Watson's 9:35 mark for the "easy way" crossing from France to England.

## SWIMMING AWARDS

Present Something Unusual  
Now Being Used by Major Meets  
Seeing is Believing — Send for  
Literature and Free Sample

W. R. Moody Co.  
P.O. Box 6069, Dept. SW  
Burbank, Calif. 91505

# THE COMPETITOR RACING LANE

For everything  
you've ever wanted  
in a racing lane

- Shipped assembled — ready to use — easy to handle.
- Bronze ratchet take-up reel and stainless spring — gives maximum tension control.
- Continuous "no-gap" segmented construction — kills waves and turbulence.
- Low density polyethylene — flexible and durable for long life.

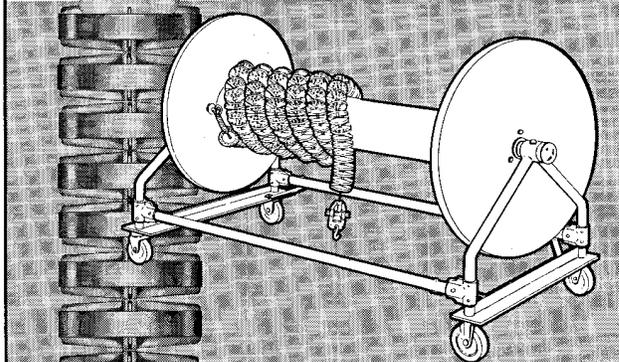


"This product of water turbulence-control research is a step forward for the swimming fraternity."

*James Buncelman*  
Dr. James Counsilman, Consultant.

## NEW STOR-LANE REEL

Holds up to seven 75 foot competitor racing lanes. Large easy rolling caster wheels for moving to storage spot. Heavy duty vinyl coated steel frame construction.



FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION  
WRITE:

KIEFER DIVISION McNEIL CORPORATION  
999 Sweitzer Ave., Akron, Ohio 44311