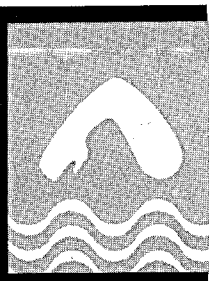


DISTANCE SWIMMING

By Dennis Matuch



Chicago, Illinois will be the scene of probably the fastest 10-mile professional swim race ever, when on August 19, a field of over 40 of the world's best professional swim marathoners will meet and compete in the Chicago Lakefront Festival's International 10-mile marathon swim competition.

The top 10 marathoners in the world from the '72 season are already entered and include Horacio Iglesias, Argentina; Jon Van Scheyndel, Holland; Raul Villagomez, Mexico; Johann Schanz, Holland; Marwan Shedid, Egypt; Dennis Matuch, USA; Marwan Saleh, Syria; Jon Erikson, USA; Rogosic Vajlko, Yugoslavia; and Mahmoud Khamis, Syria.

The favorite of the hometown crowd will be Jon Erikson, a 19-year-old native of Chicago. His father, Ted Erikson, is a former amateur long-distance swimmer who was the second man to double-cross the English Channel and who still holds the time record for that feat. Jon Erikson will be highly favored in the 10-mile event if he gets the right conditions, which for him are a low water temperature (between 55 and 65) and two to three foot waves.

Another highly-favored swimmer of this \$3,000 race is the flying Dutchman, Johann Schanz of Utrecht, Holland. He has won more 10-mile races than any other currently competing professional. When Schanz gets his ideal conditions, very warm and calm water, he is considered almost unbeatable at this distance. He will be favored to finish in the top three positions no matter what weather conditions prevail.

Joe Balossa, head organizer for this event, is responsible for what should be the best organized professional swim of the last decade. Balossa hopes this swim will be an annual competition on Chicago's beautiful lakefront.

In the next column of Professional Distance Swimming will be the results of the first three professional swims of the '73 season. These include the Capri-Naples 18-mile open water swim; the Latuque 24-hour team race and the Lake St. John 25-mile rough water swim.

TWO WORLD, FIVE EUROPEAN RECORDS SET AT EAST GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

BERLIN — Kornelia Ender lowered the world mark for the 100 butterfly with a 1:02.31 on July 14, bettering her own pending time of 1:03.05 set earlier in April. This betters the listed record of Mayumi Aoki, Japan, with 1:03.39.

On July 13, Kornelia swam her fastest ever 100 meter freestyle with 58.25 to better Shane Gould's listed world record time of 58.5. Both times are naturally European marks also.

Other European record bettering swims were by Rosemarie Kother, who bettered her own European record with a 2:16.03 in the 200 fly to post the second fastest time for the event ever swim. Miss Kother's best previous time was 2:17.11.

Andrea Eife bettered her own 200 free European record with a 2:05.7, improving on her Olympic performance of last season where she posted 2:06.27. Miss Eife also bettered the European 200 backstroke mark with 2:22.34, the former record being held by Annegret Kober, EGE, 2:23.35 in 1972.

Complete results will be published in the next issue.

MEET DIRECTORS AND SWIM COMMITTEES

Please send in a few of your entry blanks to SWIMMING WORLD, 5507 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood, Calif. 91607. We have requests for entry form or meet announcements from inquiring clubs and swimmers. Be sure to airmail meet results immediately after meet. Photos are also welcome.

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