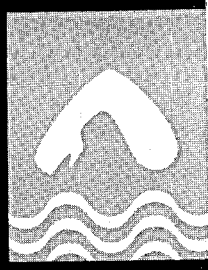


DISTANCE SWIMMING

By Dennis Matuch



The Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame has been revitalized. When Joe Grossman, founder of the World Professional Marathon Swimming Federation and the MSHF, died in 1973, no further honorees to the Hall were elected until now. The names of 60 honorees and a list of their accomplishments were published in the pages of *Swimming World* up until that year.

The revitalization of the MSHF is due to the extraordinary efforts of Commander Gerald Forsberg, O.B.E., Royal Navy (Rtd.), F.N.I. When Joe Grossman created the MSHF he made the wise decision to seek out the most knowledgeable experts in the field to assist him in making selections from a world list of pro, solo and amateur marathoners of outstanding and noted caliber.

Buck Dawson, executive director of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, a stellar contributor to all aspects of swimming and well known to readers of *Swimming World*, agreed not only to be on the committee of selectors but to house the new Hall at the famous International Swimming Hall of Fame at Fort Lauderdale. The other selector was Commander Forsberg.

Fosberg contacted the surviving members of the committee, Buck Dawson, and myself (as secretary of the WPMSF, I am a member of the committee) to begin the long and careful verification of submitted names from all over the world.

The committee soon realized the complexity of the screening process and decided that the addition of two additional selectors to aid them were in order. Two long-term experts noted for their contribution to the sport were inducted as honorees of the MSHF and immediately co-opted to assist the committee (thus bringing the selection committee to five) in the screening. They were:

Kevin Murphy (England): a newspaper man whose broad local and international contacts in marathon swimming will be of great assistance. The only man to have made three double crossings of the English Channel (42-44 miles). The first man to attempt (twice) an unprecedented triple-crossing of the English Channel (twice he completed 2-2/3 the distance — some 54 miles). Second person to swim the Irish Sea (22 miles, which is a record).

Murphy was also the first person to swim around the Isle of Wight (60 miles); first person to swim from Majorca to Minorca (25 miles); first person to swim the length of Lake Balaton (Hungary), 50 miles.

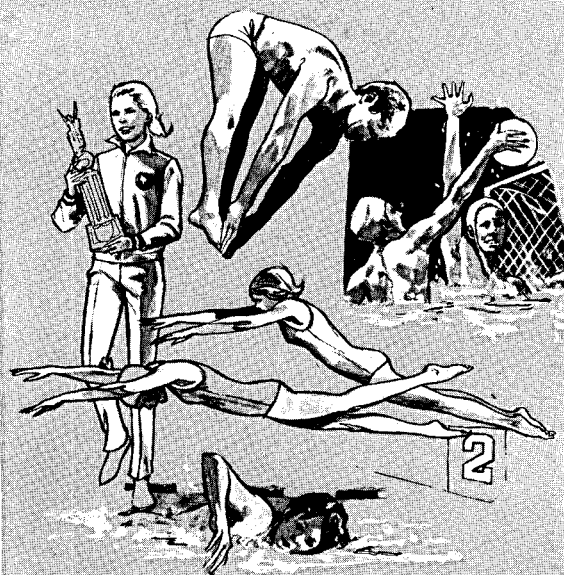
Conrad Wennerberg (USA): well known to readers of *Swimming World* as writer on the marathon scene. He was elected as contributor for his book, *Wind, Waves and Sunburn*, a history of marathon swimming; technical director and announcer of pro marathon swims; coach of pro marathon swimmers.

After several months of careful analysis, the committee named the following outstanding marathoners as the 1978 honorees to the MSHF.

Ernst Vierkoetter (Germany): In 1926 he set an English Channel record that lasted for 24 years; won the largest official cash purse ever offered (\$30,000) in a pro race when he was the only finisher in the 1927 Canadian National Exhibition 21-mile marathon (water temperature in upper 40's and low 50's); successful competitor in many marathons.

Regent LaCoursiere (Canada): one of the top pros in history, having competed in over 65 marathons in which 15 were first place, eight second place and majority of rest, third through

GYM, SWIM, TEAM & LEISURE SPORTS CLOTHING



Send for literature. Please indicate Gym and/or Team sport.

Broderick U.S.A.

TOM BRODERICK COMPANY, INC.
P.O. Box 6096, Glendale, Calif. 91205 • P.O. Box 997, Parsons, Kansas 67357

SWIM-A-THON®

AN EASY WAY TO MAKE

\$5,000⁰⁰



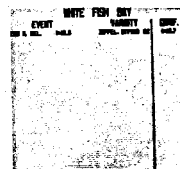
ALL THE MONEY STAYS IN SWIMMING

FOR INFORMATION AND SUPPLIES WRITE:

SWIM-A-THON®

INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME
1 HALL OF FAME DR. • FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

SWIMMING MEET RECORD BOARDS



White Enamelled Aluminum Sign Bars
Oak, aluminum or stainless steel frames

Quick-changing (hang-on type) aluminum letters — 4", 3", 2", 1 1/4"
Letters and boards used at: U. of Minn., Ohio State, White Plains HS, Ridgewood YMCA, Dartmouth, Wichita HS, "Kisky" School, E. Grand Rapids HS, State Univ. at Geneseo, N.Y., Kamehameha HS, Univ. of So. Florida, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Leyden HS, etc.

WRITE FOR PRICE SHEET NO. SRB-3

W.L. CLARK COMPANY, INC.
37-16 Sarah Drive, Farmingdale, L.I., N.Y.
Phone (516) 293-9454

HERE IT IS!



#1 - CALIFORNIA SWIMMING \$5.95

One of our popular line of T-shirts. Brilliant multi-color design on heavy cotton. Blue or yellow. Youth sizes M or L Adult sizes S, M, L, XL Write for quantity prices.

WE'RE ONE OF THE WEST COAST'S LARGEST AQUATIC TEAM SUPPLIERS

Shampoos Out Chlorine Green!



At last... an amazing new shampoo that safely and simply washes away the unwanted green of swimming, sun and chlorine. Whenever green takes over your hair -- whatever the cause -- simply shampoo for 5 minutes or less. IT WORKS!!
8 oz. bottle only \$3.75

If your dealer doesn't have it yet, order direct from:

CONEJO SPORTSWORKS, Inc.

- SEND Free Catalog
- SEND _____ T-shirts @ \$5.95 each
Size _____ Color _____
- SEND _____ Green Out Shampoo @ \$3.75 each
Enclose check, money order or foreign draft in U.S. dollars.
California residents add 6% tax. We pay postage in U.S.!!

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE: _____ ZIP _____
CONEJO SPORTSWORKS, Inc. 2500 Townsgate Rd., Suite H
Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

fifth place; most crossings of the 21-mile Lake St. John marathon (14).

Alfredo Camerero (Argentina): winner of Atlantic City (22 miles), Capri-Naples (18 miles) and 1959 English Channel pro race; long time competitor and top ranker in many pro races.

Jerry Kerschner (USA): winner of Lake George (12 miles) and CNE (10 miles) pro marathons; top finisher in many other pro races; completed over 15 solo marathon swims that ranged from 10 to 15 miles; champ over the short course (100 and 200 meters; 1944 AAU).

Ted Erikson (USA): first to swim across Lake Michigan (37 miles); first to swim from Farallon Islands to San Francisco (31 miles); twice co-holder of world's distance records (50 and 60-mile Lake Michigan marathons); one-time record holder of English Channel double-crossing record (42-44 miles).

Des Renford (Australia): eleven successful English Channel crossings (record); competitor in many pro races in his native Australia and elsewhere throughout the world; named "Sportsman of the Year" in Australia for his marathon swimming successes.

Michael Read (England): ten successful English Channel crossings to date; winner of Loch Lomond and two-way Lake Windermere races; record holder for Isle of Wight circuit (60 miles); record holder for the Wash (Hunstanton to Skegness) race.

Diana Nyad (USA): 1974 woman's world pro champion; successful Lake Ontario crossing; holder of world's record for Manhattan Island circuit (26 miles); top competitor in many pro races and solo marathons.

Cynthia Nicholas (Canada): 1976 women's world pro champion; record holder of 32-mile Lake Ontario marathon and world record holder (men and women) of 42-44-mile English Channel double-crossing.

John Kinsella (USA): outstanding pro marathon champion, finishing first in 14 of 17 pro races entered; world pro champion in 1974, 1976, 1977; record holder of Lake St. John, Chibougamau, Paspebiac, LaTuque, Montreal and Chicago pro marathons.

A complete listing along with a photo of the latest honorees will be placed on permanent exhibit at the ISHOF. Buck Dawson and his committee will then seek an endowment for a "Sea Goddess" statuary piece and pedestal as a further tribute to these outstanding marathoners. The ISHOF is host to thousands of visitors every year who come from all over the world. The MSHF is just one of the many jewels to see on the grounds.

* * * * *

The 13th Annual Rio Coronda 35-mile marathon was held on Feb. 5. This Argentine swim is world famous because the geography of the river takes it through one of the heaviest of populated areas in Argentina. As a consequence, as many as 300,000 spectators (weather permitting) will watch the race which begins at Santa Fe and ends downstream at Coronda. This is by far the largest number of spectators that are able to watch a marathon swim anywhere in the world.

The board of directors of the marathon reads like a *Who's Who* of Argentina. Senor Ayis Lais, the president, is a noted and successful businessman of the area. There are three physicians on the board. Dr. Nestor Vittori serves as secretary. Senor Osvaldo Devoto, another noted businessman of the area, also serves as secretary to this internationally-famous marathon.

These three prime movers, with the assistance of others on the board, each year select the best foreign and Argentinian marathoners for their event. To one foreigner from each country they send a complimentary round trip airplane ticket. When they arrive in Argentina they are given free room and board at one of the fine hotels common to the resort area. This year John Kinsella (USA), Raul Villogomez (Mex.), Marwan Saleh (Syria) and Jenny Anderson (Aust) were the invited guests. Argentinian Claudio Plit, who is an ex-world champion marathoner, was also invited in addition to 18 fellow countrymen.

On the race day the weather was ideal with bright and sunny

skies and temperatures in the 80's. The river registered a warm 82 degrees.

About 15,000 spectators were gathered at Santa Fe for the start of the race. Just one-half mile downstream from the start an equal number of spectators were massed along the Colgante Bridge which spans the river. Crowds of similar large numbers jammed the second bridge, Nuevo Bridge, just a few blocks further downstream. Throughout the race many spectators would get into cars and drive along the river to wait for the swimmers to come before repeating the routine further along downstream.

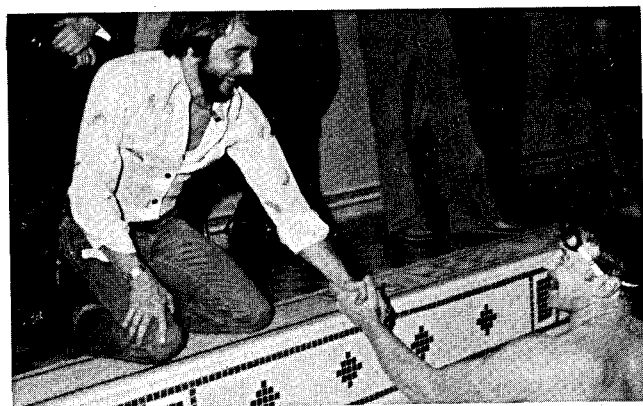
Within five minutes of the start the marathoners had elbow room for settling down into the mainstream of the current which idles along at a speed of 2-3 miles per hour. John Kinsella took the lead at the start and proceeded to wind around the bends and curves (including backwater bays spotted with yacht clubs or tourist havens), alongside islands, through pontoon bridge slips and various other geographical landmarks.

For 35 miles as the river winds, or approximately 21 miles of swimming since he and the others were riding a current, he led the field with Claudio Plit remaining anywhere from one quarter of a mile to one mile behind during the rest of the race.

Seven hours and 44 minutes later Kinsella arrived at Coronda to collect \$2,000. Claudio Plit finished 16 minutes and 56 seconds later for his \$1,200. Raul Villagomez showed up only two minutes and two seconds behind Claudio. The first woman to finish was Jenny Anderson who completed the swim about an hour after the winner Kinsella.

All in all there were 23 finishers with only one dropout, which speaks well of the organization and weather of the Rio Coronda marathon.

—By Conrad Wennerberg



After swimming for 16 hours, Raymond Cusson, in water, is congratulated by Daniel Pelletier in Saskatchewan, Canada.

FOR SALE Aqua Park Swim Club



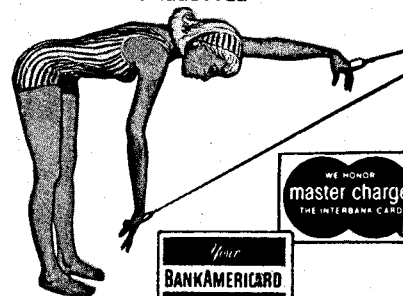
Aqua Park Swim Club is located in New Smyrna Beach on Florida's East Coast just south of Daytona Beach. Includes pool and business. L shaped pool 44'x75' with diving area 12' deep - 6 lanes and locker room facilities. Complete lesson program, AAU swim teams established as well as recreational and membership admissions. Price: \$80,000. Call for details.

INDIAN RIVER REAL ESTATE Broker
Susan L. Kovacs Realtor-Associate
Third Ave., New Smyrna Beach, Fl. 32069
(804) 427-4173

JULY SPECIALS!



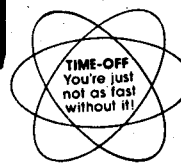
SWIMMING
FREESTYLE



MODEL EG \$33.50
(without footboard)
(Reg \$35.95)
PLUS SHIPPING

**WRITE FOR FULL
PRICE ON 10 STATION
CIRCUITS FOR
MEN AND WOMEN**

**BREAK THE
TIME
BARRIER**



**TIME OFF AND
MOTION LOTION**

\$6.50
(Reg. \$6.95)
PLUS SHIPPING

**10-12 application
per can**

Lotion form
provides warm
and effective rubdown
F D A APPROVED

Jim Montreuil



COMPETITIVE AQUATIC SUPPLY
Post Office Box K - Lakewood, Calif. 90714

(213) 633-3333