



Turns & Distances

A publication of the Officials Committee of the Pacific Association USA Track & Field
Dick Connors, 2065 Kings Lane, San Mateo, CA 94402... ☎ (415) 341-6781
Tuesday, July 23, 2013



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

USATF OFFICIALS HALL OF FAME

- 2007.....**Horace Crow**
Leo Costanzo
- 2008.....**Lori Maynard**
George Kleeman
- 2009.....**Dick Connors**
- 2010.....**Bob Podkaminer**

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 Luppés
- 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
- 2008..... Dick Iwamiya
- 2009..... Bruce Colman
- 2010..... Bobby Hughey
- 2011..... Don Bailes
- 2012.....**Shirley Connors**
Margaret Sheehan

Vice-Chair Phil Announces the 2013 Annual Meeting for Pacific Association Officials

The Pacific Association's Officials Vice-Chair, and the Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee, Phil Leake, announces that the 2013 annual meeting for officials will occur on Sunday, August 25th in the press box at the U.C. Davis football stadium. Your admission ticket will cost you \$10⁰⁰ and those details are at the end of this article.

A tentative agenda shows:

- 10:00 a.m. - **Sonny Maynard** leads our annual *You Make The Call* discussion which turns all of us into referees as we tackle "interesting situations" from recent meets.
- 11:00 a.m. - Chow time as U.C. Davis hosts the officials and has always provided us with a scrumptious buffet lunch.
- 12:00 noon - Annual Awards Chair **Dr. Leon Glover** acknowledges the fine work done by our officials as he presents the 2013 awards.
- 1:00 p.m. - Officials Chair **John Murray** conducts the business portion of our annual meeting. This year a portion of that business will be announcing the results of our elections and the installation of our new officers. **John Murray** will give his farewell Chair's Report as he is not running for reelection and **Shirley Connors** and **Jim Hume** will give their scintillating reports from the Training and Certification Committees.



Vice-Chair Phil Leake

Sometime later - It's *Raffle Time* as the annual raffle is conducted.

When you sign up for the Annual Meeting you automatically get your raffle ticket. As your number is called...you get your choice of goodies. Of course, the more stuff you bring along to put on the table, the more stuff you have to choose from. This is a raffle at which it is very hard to go home empty handed.

In order to sign up for the Annual Meeting, send an e-mail to **Phil Leake** (Pgal1@sbcglobal.net) and tell him you are coming. Of course if you want to speed up the process on the 25th, send Phil a note and a \$10.00 check made out to PA/USATF Officials [7249 Chesline Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621]

Heard at the Track

• **A Bay Area Champion...**San Francisco’s Academy of Art University has won the 2013 NCAA women’s Division II indoors championship. The meet was held at Birmingham, Alabama, March 7-9. The school scored 59 points with the deciding event being the 4x400 relay, where the Academy women finished third.

The Academy women backed that up by winning the Outdoors Division II championship, held at Pueblo, Colorado, May 23-25, scoring 60 points. San Jose’s Vashti Thomas played a role in 43 of her team’s points, winning the 100 hurdles, finishing second in the 200, and running on the 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams. “I’m really tired,” she told an interviewer.

Vashti climaxed her season by winning the World University Games 100 hurdles in 12.61.

Academy teams compete a dozen different sports in the Pacific Western Conference, against Brigham Young University Hawai’i, Chaminade University of Honolulu, Dixie State College of Utah, Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ), Hawai’i Pacific University and Notre Dame de Namur University (Belmont, CA).The Academy began its athletic program in 2006 and joined the NCAA in 2009.

• **Fashion statement:** If you have seen **Dr. Leon Glover** lately—Pacific Association’s own wizard of the wind gauge—you may have noticed a new look. Leon tells *T&D* that he was being prepared for cataract surgery this spring, when his eye doctor “did a fancy computer scan.” It found a fold in Leon’s right cornea. Ninety minutes of surgery corrected both problems—and he now claims to see perfectly at a distance (and can keep his driver’s license). Leon is eyeglass free, save for prescription readers, for the first time since fifth grade. As the surgery happened right before the Stanford Invitational, he writes, “It was my first miss for the meet since grad school!”

• **Hartnell College has a permanent track and field coach,** reports **Joe Nemeth**. “I wanted to let you know that **Chris Zepeda** is now the full time coach for Hartnell College. He had been a part time instructor at the college for the past 4 years.”

• **Phil Leake** writes: “The San Juan Unified School District (serving Carmichael, Orangevale, Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Rancho Cordova and parts of Sacramento) has voted to allocate funds for the Del Campo Field of Dreams. This new track will have awesome venues for throwing and jumps and we expect this venue will be good enough to hold the Sac-Joaquin Section. The project can be viewed on www.delcampofieldofdreams.org. It will cost approximately \$4 million. A lot of services and planning have already been donated.”

• **End of an era: Ed Miller has retired** from the coaching staff at UC Berkeley. The 1976 NCAA decathlon champion (with 7443 points, then a Cal school record), says he plans to rest up, do some traveling, work on his Tahiti Caribbean power boat, and try to get his long-injured foot and ankle healthy.

When *T&D* asked Coach Miller to reflect back on his career, he said:

“I have been a Bear for 30 years and it has had quite an impact on me and my family (daughter and son attended Cal). I loved coming to work every day and working with the most gifted student-athletes in the world. I think I would have done it for free!

“My relationships with the officials have been very special. You start out as casual acquaintances and soon find yourself with 30 or 40 new friends. The unselfish attitudes and the tireless work are things I will always appreciate. There were always challenges but never an obstacle we couldn't solve together.”

“Maybe I’ll join you in a couple of years,” he added.

Ed Miller is a member of the Cal Athletic Hall of Fame, Diablo Valley College Athletic Hall of Fame, and the Pacific Association Hall of Fame.

• **Bay Area Goes for Two:** On April 20, UC Berkeley and Stanford did something very unusual: competed a dual meet, with scores kept and bragging rights at stake.

Why are collegiate dual meets, which are so much fun, so rare these days?

John Crumacker, writing in the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) the morning of the meet, cited some reasons:

CREDITS	
PUBLISHER.....	DICK CONNORS
EDITOR	JIM HUME
COPY EDITOR	BRUCE COLMAN
	JOHN LILYGREN
CONTRIBUTORS	BRUCE COLMAN
	DICK CONNORS
	JIM HUME
	AJAY PADGAONKAR
	JON PRICE
PHOTOGRAPHY.....	MARK FOYER
	JIM HUME
MAILING	DICK CONNORS

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
2008.....	John Shirey
2009.....	Jim Waldron
2010.....	Pat Randall
2011.....	Leon Wimbley
2012	John Lilygren

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
2008.....	Jeannie White
2009.....	Rory Osborne
2010.....	Tiffany Banks
2011.....	Phil Leake
2012	Dennis Boyle

The Lori Maynard**Special Recognition Award**

2009.....	Art and Becky Klein
2010.....	Deanna and Jon Vochatzer
2011.....	Keith Conning
2012	Dave Shrock

“With an increased emphasis on indoor track, a shortening of the outdoor season to accommodate conference, regional and national championships and the financial impossibility of recruiting athletes for every event, most schools went away from dual meets.”

Crumpacker mentioned that the Big Meet is one of only four traditional duals still contested. The others? Harvard-Yale, Lehigh-Lafayette, and USC-UCLA. (*T&D* is not sure how Crumpacker missed the Causeway Classic—CSU Sacramento vs. UC Davis.)

(In the end, the Cal men won their side, 85-78; the Stanford women beat Cal’s women handily at 102-61).

- **On track repairs:** As San Francisco’s Park and Rec Department prepares to resurface the track at Kezar Stadium, PA officials **Don Collins, Irene Herman, and Al Hernandez** met with a representative of Mondo Track & Field in early July, for a walk-around. “A lot of people have been working to convince the city to get the project prioritized,” Don Collins says. Kezar is one of four full sized public tracks in the city, serving 22 middle schools and 14 high schools. It is also heavily used by recreational runners. There are many steps to go, but Don thinks the new surface may be ready during the 2014 track and field season. He is SFUSD sports commissioner.
- **Olympic Team Trials:** Once again, the University of Oregon has prevailed. Eugene will host the next USA Olympic Team Trials, at Hayward Field on campus, July 1-10, 2016. The organizing committee has promised to make all guests welcome to “Track Town”!
- **A good run by Evans:** Dena Day Evans, former outstanding middle distance runner at Stanford and current coach of the New Balance Silicon Valley Track Club, was one of the early finishers at this year’s Boston Marathon with a time of 2:56, which put her back in her hotel before the bombings.
- **High School Rule Changes for 2014:** The National Federation of State High School Associations has released the 2014 rule changes for track and field. They may be found at <http://www.nfhs.org>. Please note that the high school federation is now in step with NCAA regarding safety measures called for at the pole vault plant box.
- **Taking a big step:** Master pole vault official and confirmed bachelor **John Lilygren** has had a change of heart. John is planning to marry his long time girlfriend **Lizbeth Seckler** on September 7, 2013 in San Jose. Great news John!!!! Congratulations and best wishes to the new couple!!!
- **Looking ahead to the 2014 season.** The first two weekends in May, 2014 will again be crunch time for officials in the Pacific Association. In addition to all the high school league and junior college conference championships, 2014 will find the Big West Conference Championships for the first time ever in Northern California, at UC Davis. The first weekend of the month will be the combined events championship and the second weekend will be for the rest of the championship meet. The second weekend will demand 35 officials on the Davis Campus. It is also the same dates as the NorCal JC finals on the campus of DeAnza College in Cupertino. For those officials who want to travel that weekend, the Big Sky Conference will hold its championship at the University of Northern Arizona at Flagstaff and the

Pac-12 will be running at Washington State University at Pullman the same May 9-10 weekend.

- Remember that **Bill Hawkes** publishes a list of all of the track meets within the Pacific Association. If you know someone who hosts a meet, tell them to send the meet information to **Bill Hawkes** at Flojo1049@yahoo.com.

Now is the time to Evaluate Your Year

By Bill Boyd, excerpted from "Virginia Track Notes" #4-2013 (JUNE 8, 2013)

Bill Boyd is a referee from the Virginia Association. His e-distributed "Virginia Track Notes," dealing with rules interpretations, are a great resource for officials nationwide. His most recent number included a list of questions officials can use to evaluate their seasons. Turns and Distances liked these questions in particular:

- Did you show up empty handed for all your assigned meets, **OR** did you bring your equipment bag with the supplemental items to do your job, i.e., flags, back-saviors, clipboard, levels, tapes?
- Did you always have the applicable rules book on your person or in your equipment bag?
- Did you read the rules books? Do you understand the intent of the rule and the keys and responsibilities for enforcement?
- Did you always show up for your assignments with the proper uniform: shirt, khaki pants, ID Badge?
- Did you self-evaluate your calls after the meet, checking with the rules book and mechanics manuals to re-affirm your questions?
- Was your pre-event check-in briefing with the athletes complete? Did you explain your procedure for calls, fouls & the excusal procedures?
- Did you always anticipate potential incidents at your event, but not anticipate your calls?
- When you worked with an official or a meet manager, who is violating a safety or recent rules change (the "we always have done it this way" type), did you diplomatically point out the problem, out of the hearing range of others?
- When working a field event, did you always have another official help by double reading the tape and double announcing the results with the recorder, and have a double record on the event sheets?
- When working with a poorly trained or nervous rookie, did you impart to him/her all your knowledge and conventional tips of the trade to make their day successful?

--Did you compliment your partners publicly for a good call?

--Did you set the pace? Keeping the event moving, calling out the countdown on time remaining during the warm-up period -- and start on time?

--Did you keep an accurate schedule of your work for your future resume?

To get onto "Sweet Old Bill's" e-mail list, contact him at hoppyboyd@widomaker.com.

The Northern Nevada Contingent of PA Officials Have Been Trying Something New

Jon Price writes:

In addition to the regularly scheduled PA-USATF Recertification, Introduction to Track and Field Officiating, Fundamentals of Field Officiating, and Fundamentals of Track Officiating clinics held in Reno in November and January, we had two sessions designed to teach volunteers to be helpful assistants to the officials. Thanks to the enthusiasm of high school coaches, we trained a total of 17 volunteers at Carson and Damonte Ranch High Schools. These sessions were free 1 to 1½-hour training on either horizontal jumps, vertical jumps, throws, or umpiring. To maximize participation, the training sessions were scheduled in the early evenings, during the week before the schools hosted major meets. We asked for e-mail addresses, and we will encourage those volunteers to take a full, paid Introduction to Track and Field Officiating clinic this coming winter.

The leaders and shakers in our Nevada contingent are, in alphabetical order...



Deri Bowen

John Bowen

Elisabeth Price

Jon Price

The idea for these short, focused training sessions originated at a northern Nevada track coaches' meeting in February. We expect to try it again during the 2014 high school track season. In addition, to recruit more Race Walk Judges and Race Walk Officials, we are offering a free, 3 hour (5:30 to 8:30 p.m., August 17) clinic on Introduction to Race Walk Officiating the evening before the PA-USATF Grand Prix 3K race walks in Reno. This class, which covers the jobs of Recorder, DQ Board Operator, and Lap Scorer, is the only class needed for Apprentice-Level Race Walk

USATF National Award Certificate**2012**

John Busto (Starter)
 Ed Gordon (Vertical Jumps)
 Peter Guerrini (Competition Secretary and
 FinishLynx operator)
 John Pretto (Throws and Vertical Jumps)
 Karen Williams (Clerk)
 Stephanie Bolden (Clerk)

2011

Mike Aro (Throws)
 Dino Certa (Starter)
 Bruce Makinson (Horizontal Jumps/Starter)
 Elisabeth Price (Race Walk Judge/Lap
 Counting)
 Jon Price (Race Walk Judge/Lap Counting)
 John Wise (Starter)

2010

Robert Benoy (Horizontal Jumps)
 Steve Green (Throws)
 Dick Cochran (Throws)
 John (J. R.) Heberle (Jumps, Starter and
 Electronic Measurement)
 Ann Gerhardt (Race Walk and Jumps)
 Leroy Milam (Clerk and Starter)

2009

Sean Laughlin (FinishLynx Operator)
 John Lilygren (Vertical Jumps)
 Baird Lloyd (LDR and Horizontal Jumps)
 Leon Wimbley (Horizontal Jumps and
 electronic measurement)
 Mark Youmans (Horizontal Jumps and
 Throws)

2008

Katherine Berman (LDR)
 Richard Berman (LDR)
 Derwent "Deri" Bowen (Throws)
 Anthony Camargo (Competition Secretary)
 Sue Murray (Throws)
 Ted Waldo (Jumps and Throws)

2007

Irene Herman (LDR, Umpire)
 Jeanne Sanders (Horizontal Jumps)
 Mike Sands (Vertical Jumps)
 Robert Thompson
 Mark Winitz (LDR)

2006

Andy Anderson (Starter)
 Dennis Boyle (Vertical Jumps)
 Charles Des Jardins (LDR, Field Referee)
 Joe Keever (Throws)
 Jon Siegel (Vertical Jumps)

Officials and one of two classes needed for Apprentice-Level Race Walk Judges. As further enticement, a spaghetti and salad dinner is part of the class, and we hope that those attending will volunteer to put their newly learned skills to work at the races beginning at 7:15 a.m. the next morning at the Damonte Ranch High School track.

My Experience As A Rookie At USATF Outdoor National Championships This Year...by Ajay Padgaonkar

[Editors note...Ajay applied to work the nationals, was selected and served on the javelin crew with John Murray.]

In the San Francisco Bay Area, we are blessed with wonderful weather. As part of the preparations for the recent USATF National championships in Des Moines, Iowa, John Murray, the head judge for the javelin crew, told us to pack our rain gear. I had occasionally experienced fog, chilly winds and drizzling rain at various regional meets and local championships, but never had I seen a meet shut down due to lightning as I did at Iowa this year. Rain and thunderstorms were in the forecast every day. It was warm and humid when it was not raining. On the second day, we conducted warm up throws in the women's heptathlon javelin in the drizzling rain and light wind. Chuck Woolsey, our marshal, had a lightning detector device with him. Just as we were getting ready to start the competition, Chuck indicated that lightning was detected within an 8-mile radius. We hustled to the field house, a brick building set up as a safe place from lightning. There was a mandatory shut down of all events for a minimum of 30 minutes and until the storm cleared. This was a new experience for me.



Ajay Padgaonkar



The players left to right: **George Adams** (Texas), **Ajay Padgaonkar** (Pacific), **Frank Newton** (Kentucky), **John Murray** (Pacific and head of the event), **Ken Yerger** (Pennsylvania), **Vicki Parker** (Oregon), and **Monica Joannes** (Kansas - formerly Pacific).

We were fortunate to have sunny, but occasionally cloudy weather for the next couple of days. For me, every day would start with breakfast in the dining hall of the Drake University dorms where we stayed. The javelin event, to which I was assigned, would start mid-day and run until late in the afternoon. The first day, when there were no javelin competitions, I helped the long jump crew. On the last two days, I helped with lap counting at the Race Walk events. I was delighted that I was able to experience events other than just the one to which I was assigned. During the breaks, we rested in the officials' tent that was conveniently located right near the track. I was thrilled to watch so many of the US Olympic-level athletes so close up.

At every event, I found that adequate equipment was available. All distance measurements were performed with laser equipment connected to computers that would transmit the results wirelessly. Not having to pull the tape saved a lot of time, not to mention that it was easier on our knees. The judges still kept manual records that were duly signed and turned in at the end of each competition. In addition, each individual result would display on a big LED display board showing the athlete's name and performance. I found this luxurious compared to the meets where we shout out the results or use manual performance boards with the cards that are hard to move. On one day, we combined two flights into a single one since some of the competitors had dropped out. However, the computer still had the athletes listed in two flights. So, when it was time for the athlete who would have been the first thrower in the second flight, the display showed the name of the first athlete from the first flight. If we had not caught it, that throw would have been incorrectly attributed to the wrong athlete. I was amused that such an issue can occur at such a big meet. Luckily, we caught this issue in time and the computer crew was able to correct and catch up without losing much time.

The long throws were on the long-throw field outside the stadium. I liked how the Drake University javelin runway uses a different color to mark the area that extends out to the sector lines. That makes it easy to mark the sector correctly and also leaves no doubt in finding the 8-meter center mark through which to pull the tape if the laser measurement apparatus is not used. The area around the throwing sectors was marked off with flags and marshals were on duty to ensure safety. Not only were there tall and intact nets around the hammer and discus cages, but there was also a net protecting the adjoining street that was well off the sector. I am sure those of you who work as marshals would have been delighted with the

setup. That tall net protected the parked cars and people walking on the sidewalk one day when a rogue hammer throw went well off the sector only to be caught by that net. Additional safety was provided by having all entries to the competition area secured with gates, where guards would manually inspect contents of all bags and check all badges for proper entry rights. That limited the equipment we could carry on to the venue. But, I was already limited by what I could carry in my baggage. I discovered that most of my marking sticks did not fit in my small bag. I did not want to carry a bigger bag and check in just to get the longer marking stick. I took with me a telescoping pointer, which is not quite a marking stick!

The stadium events were webcast continuously. Unfortunately, the webcast was not archived. So, we could not watch the stadium events later. On the last 3 days of the meet, ESPN and NBC cameras were at many of the events. While the camera crews were setting up, we got to talk to them as we wanted to make sure they were a safe distance away and that we would not get in each other's way. I was initially concerned that I would be too self-conscious because of these cameras, but as the competition started and as I became focused on the competition, my concern just melted away. I did not realize that the camera had captured my actions in the field a few times, until I was told by my family, who were thrilled to catch me on TV.

Due to my work schedule, I usually only judge the local meets on the weekends. I was fortunate enough to have been selected for the USATF Youth National Championship meet in 2010 and the World Master Championships in 2011, both in Sacramento. So, I was somewhat familiar with these multi-day meets. I had seen that the head judge would rotate the crew through pretty much all of the assignments from flight coordination and line judge to duties in the field. At the Youth National Championship, I had the opportunity to meet judges from the other associations around the country. At the World Master Championship, I even had the opportunity to meet some from outside the U.S. I had found this interaction quite delightful and educational. The Outdoor National Championships this year provided me with similar opportunities to make new friends and learn about how the love for track and field brings together people of diverse interests, cultural backgrounds and careers.

On the last day of the meet, I had offered to help as a lap counter at the Race Walk event, an event that was to start at 7 am, but the rain started early and lightning was expected to follow. We learned about this issue while we were in the cafeteria eating breakfast.

PACIFIC ASSOCIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS*bold face = certified official***HALL OF FAME AWARD**

- 2007..... **George Kleeman**
Lori Maynard
Sonny Maynard
Horace Crow
Tom Moore
Dr. Harmon Brown
- 2008..... Ed Miller
Richard Connors
- 2009..... **Robert 'Pod' Podkaminer**
- 2011..... **Don Bailes**

SERVICE AWARD

- 2003..... **George Kleeman**
Charlie Sheppard
- 2004..... Ron Daniels
John Mansoor
- 2005..... **JoAnne Camargo**
Irene Herman
- 2006..... Cynci Calvin
Robert 'Bob' Shor
- 2007..... Tyler Abbott;
Robert 'Pod' Podkaminer
- 2008..... **Mark Winitz**
Maura Kent
- 2011..... Jack Leydig
Joy Upshaw
Lee Webb

TOM MOORE AWARD

- 2002..... **Tom Moore**
- 2003..... **Dr. Harmon Brown**
Herb Rodabaugh
- 2005..... **Robert Bowman**
- 2009..... **Robert 'Bob' Rush**
- 2011..... **Sean Laughlin**

COACH'S LEGACY AWARD

- 2009..... James "Jim" Hunt
- 2010..... Bud Winter
Jim Santos

We stayed there well after the breakfast time ended since the cafeteria was also a brick building safe from rain and lightning. The event finally started at 11 am. I barely finished before the 12:45 call time for the javelin competition that was to start at 2 pm. The stadium event schedule was upset due to that delayed start, but luckily, it did not affect us on the long-throw field. That was the last javelin competition of the meet. Some of us rushed to the airport to catch our flights. However, the aforementioned bad weather had upset the flight schedules as well. Two of the crew missed connections and had to stay at their respective airports overnight. John and I had to make a mad dash to catch our connecting flights. Fortunately, the two of us got home the same day. Unlike the other two who got stranded due to the missed flights.

Laser Measurement Of The Long Throws Just Got Less Expensive

*Action Photos by Foyer**Action Photo by Foyer***Leica's DISTO™ D5**

With the marriage of a hand-held Leica laser-measuring tool with a tripod and a target, the cost of laser measuring long throws has dropped from the \$18,000+ range to the \$500-\$600 range. The above photos were taken at the California High School T&F Championship Meet and a number of college leagues have been using this system. The device does not connect to FieldLynx or a scoreboard but it will give either metric or imperial marks.

The man with the target marks where the implement landed. The man with the measuring device places the tripod inside the ring with the back legs against the ring and the front leg pointing toward the target. Leica's measuring device with the proper setting determines the distance. An official may use either metric or imperial measurement.

Sean Laughlin Has Electronic Gear

When Sean Laughlin goes to a meet, you expect accurate timing at the finish line, but the larger the meet, the more electronics he puts into play. Sean's equipment is designed to assist the spectators in staying in touch with the results in a variety of events, not just the event right in front of their seat.



Action Photo by Foyer



Action Photo by Foyer



Action Photo by Foyer

- **Left** photo...Thanks to Sanger and Buchanan High Schools' supplying students to run FieldLynx, the announcer, press and spectators were kept up-to-date on the results of each jump or throw. Here **Connor Laughlin** assists Sanger High students **Alicia Henry** and **Ashley Rodriguez** with changing FieldLynx heights in the pole vault.
- **Center** Photo...One of Sean's large scoreboards showed current team results between races.
- **Right** Photo...Sean and his computers were able to communicate with a computer in the press box which gave the announcers the results of track races as fast as Sean could record them. These results also went to the stadium's scoreboard as well as to the scoreboards at the finish line. For the field events, the press box had a computer dedicated to showing field event results jump by jump and throw by throw. Sean also posted field and track results to press row across the track and posted those results "on-line" for those who cared to look.

Encounters with the Elders: Seven Questions for Sonny Maynard by Bruce Colman

PA officials know Sonny Maynard best as the head field official-slash-field referee at Stanford. He is the central field-events figure at College of San Mateo, as well, and during the track and field season Sonny may be seen at Cal, City College of San Francisco, Hartnell, and Peninsula high schools. In the past, he has been all over the country working national championships and attending governance conventions, usually with his late spouse, Lori. He considers no field-event assignment beneath him; at eighty-four (!), Sonny may still be seen working the sector in throwing events. He and Lori were inaugural members of the Pacific Association Hall of Fame. (She is also in the National Officials Hall of Fame.)

Sonny and Lori's son, Don, is the 911 fire operations manager for San Mateo County. Don's wife-- their daughter-in-law--Andrea, is a critical care nurse at Sequoia hospital.

Over a Chinese lunch in San Mateo, Turns & Distances asked a series of questions to learn what makes this great—but modest--official tick.

T&D: *You are California-born and grew up in the Central Valley. Tell us a little about your family background, life in the Valley in your youth, and what brought you to the Peninsula.*

I was born in San Mateo but we lived in Redwood City at the time. My dad worked for Piggly Wiggly Markets on Broadway in Redwood City. This was during the Depression and he lost his job. We moved down to the Valley, to Tulare, when I was five or six. He got a job driving a truck

for Langendorf Bakeries, which is no longer in existence. Then we moved up to Fresno, where I went to elementary school. Then he bought a country store in Visalia, he and a partner. And so when I was in junior high, we moved to Visalia—country store, gas pump in the front, weigh scale for trucks on the side, and two stories and we lived in the top of the store. They worked their butts off, seven days a week for a long time. But they made a go of it. So that's where I went to high school.



Sonny Maynard

I was never interested in working in the store so in the summers I picked a few grapes, budded a few saplings, worked for the post office, odd jobs like that.

Then I went to Visalia Junior College, which is now College of the Sequoias, from there to Fresno State and after I graduated, I came up to the Peninsula for a fifth year at San Jose State.

After I finished SJS, I came up to Redwood City and worked in the Rec department for a year and started teaching in 1952. Lori and I were married in 1956 and built a small A frame cabin in the Pinecrest Lake-Dodge Ridge area which allowed us to spend quite a bit time in winters skiing and summers sailing. Pretty good life.

I started teaching in 1952 and spent almost 37 years in the same school. The first year I taught fifth grade, then went to the junior high school and taught a regular class with all subjects. Later on it became more specialized and I taught mostly science to seventh and eighth graders.

In the summers I taught swimming until about '64 when I began work with a pool cleaning company. That sounded rather prosaic so I'd just say I was an "aquatic engineer."

Did that for quite a while then started working winters part time in a ski shop till I retired from teaching in '88 and began working there full time in the winters through 2001. Funny, the shop was owned by one of my former 8th grade students. Man, he loved to give me crap. "I'm the boss now. You're just another flunky."

T&D: *You originally got certified during AAU days. What was the first meet you worked? What was the event?*

We began running in about '72 when the running boom was going. Over the years we did a lot of local fun runs and XC races. Did a couple of Bay to Breakers when it was a small gathering of 12,000 or so. Ran the Dipsea one year. This led Lori into competitive Race Walking in '77 where she became very good. All this just kind of evolved into track and field officiating around 1980.

Our first meet was at Cal and one of the field events, I don't recall which and we were assigned by Gail Wetzork. At the time we were kind of young among the officials.

Nobody recruited us. I was always interested because I'd competed pole vault in high school and junior college, with bamboo poles and sawdust landing pits. It was the time of Dutch Warmerdam.

We would attend track meets just for the fun of it—West Coast Relays, California Relays in Modesto—rather frequently. It just naturally evolved that we got interested in officiating.

Lori went to her first convention as a delegate in '81 and became an IAAF RW judge in '88 so we had to be legal about 1980.

T&D: *As a referee, the heart of your job is to rule on protests. What criteria do you use to sort out or resolve situations where a coach or athlete feels things haven't been done right?*

Obviously, the first thing is, you have got to be pretty well versed in the rules, and remember that if you're looking at a situation, it's certainly okay to go back to the rule book, you're not expected to know everything and memorize it all.

I want to talk to all the people involved so I can get all sides of the case—the coaches, the athletes, the officials, whoever's involved. And when that's done, you pretty much have to rely on logic and common sense, and applying the rule in that particular situation. And in my case, it's pretty much local stuff so there's no jury of appeals. If I make a decision, that's the decision.

George Kleeman and Bob Podkaminer have reiterated that you look at the facts, you make a decision, but another referee may make another decision. But that doesn't really make any difference, because you're the one doing it in that place. Don't try to ask what somebody else would say. It boils down to logic and common sense, because sometimes there are no absolutes.

T&D: *In close to 30 years of officiating—plus more, as a fan-in-the-stands, and as an athlete, yourself—what was the most outstanding athletic feat you've seen?*

That one's pretty easy: 1987, World Championships in Rome; Stefka Kostadinova in the high jump, 2.09, 6'10 ¼, a world record that still stands.

Also we had two world records within minutes—well, we almost had two world records. Shortly after, Ben Johnson broke the world record in the 100, 9.87. That one was later disallowed and his place thrown out and everything.

Johnson was one of the most obvious steroid cheats at that time and they caught him. It was amazing that he hadn't been caught before.

T&D: *Not limiting your answer to Track and Field—and we know you have a thing for Lindsey Vonn, the ski racer—please name three athletes you particularly admire or enjoy watching.*

That's who I would start with. Lindsey Vonn is an awesome woman. She can turn 'em left and right; she can carve a turn like few people can. So she would be right up at the top.

Then Jan Železný, the javelin thrower. He wasn't a huge guy. He was six feet, 6'1, 185, but he had the fastest arm

you will ever see. A 300-foot javelin throw is fun to watch. We saw him in 2001 in the World Championships in Edmonton. He won the event there, 300-plus. His world record still stands, at 323 and change. That's a long way. There was a longer world record by Uwe Hohn, but that was in the old javelin before they changed it in the late 1980s.

Železný's career lasted, surprisingly, from 1986 to 2006. Twenty years! That's a hell of a long career for a javelin thrower. Not for a discus thrower necessarily, but with the stress on the elbow and the shoulder, in the jav, that's pretty unusual.

The other one I enjoyed watching was Michael Jordan. He was an unbelievable basketball player.

T&D: *You are also quite the music fan; any particular favorites? Composers? Performers? Genres?*

Fan might not be the right word, primarily because I never turn on the radio or a CD at home, ever. The only time I listen is in the car, or if I can go to musical theater.

My likes are pretty eclectic. Classical: Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Vivaldi, overtures, that kind of thing.

I do like the music from the real musicals. If you go back to "Oklahoma," "My Fair Lady," "Chorus Line," and so forth: great music, all the way through. And everybody knows the music and the words.

Look at something like "Cats." What were the songs that you would remember or know the words to? Aside from "Memories"?

You can take one like "Guys and Dolls" and you can throw together a simple stage set, which is what they do at Foothill, where they have musicals which are great, and you can end up with a marvelous show. You don't have to have all the production if you have the songs to go with it.

T&D: *You attend lectures on astronomy pretty regularly. What intrigues you about that ancient science? Anything we should watch for in the night sky?*

Guess I got interested when I was teaching some of this in my 8th grade science class.

Over the years I took several classes at the local JC. Read a bunch of books on astronomy, cosmology and physics. I've attended public lectures, about six a year, on the subjects that Foothill College has sponsored for the last 12 or 13 years.

That being said, I'm honestly at the dilettante level.

Do I remember much of this stuff? Not really, and all of these are non-mathematical and geared to the interested layman. If I go beyond $2+2=5$ I'm over my head. I'd love to be able to understand this stuff at a deeper level but

without a math background you can just barely scratch the surface.

What do I find fascinating about the subjects? One thing is the humongous size difference between the size of the quantum world (also the totally illogical things that happen in that microcosm) and the size of the universe. Interestingly a human being ranks roughly half-way between the two extremes.

We can't fully grasp the universe size but by looking at pictures from the Hubble deep space telescope we know that it is **REALLY BIG**. Then throw in the fact that all the things that are visible to us and all the energy we can detect constitutes only about 5% of what exists. The rest is dark matter and dark energy so basically we are blind.

Going the other direction, down to particle physics and quantum mechanics, it's hard to comprehend that that realm is as small as the detectable universe is big. Then looking at the origin of the universe, the big bang, (and not our favorite TV show) and its ultimate demise which involves both cosmology and the quantum world--is of interest but well beyond my limited possibilities to understand.

I just happened to read, the end of November, around the 28th, we're going to have a very bright and visible comet. However, comets are extremely fickle, so it may fizzle out and be a nothing. That frequently happens. There's your update

T&D: *You're involved with a not-for-profit agency in Nepal. What is it called? What is its mission? How did you get involved?*

It goes back to the fact that we were donating to different causes, some here, some there, some everywhere, they're all good causes. But we wanted to find something that we could consolidate into, that satisfied our needs and it had to be girls in Third World countries, where their status is the lowest of the low and they're abused and taken advantage of. So we looked for someone who would deal primarily with that kind of group.

At one point there was an article in the *Chronicle* about a local charity called Nepal Youth Foundation. It was run by a retired lawyer, Olga Murray. She had done a trek in Nepal in the mid-eighties and was so taken by the poverty and the treatment of kids and women that when she came home, she started this charity. It was in 1990 I believe. So we read the article and looked the group up on Charity Navigator, and it consistently got the highest rating, four stars over a number of years.

What we liked about it was that they have lots of programs that deal with taking care of kids. They have two orphanages. These are kids who are taken off the street or

abandoned or living with parents or relatives who can't afford them.

For instance, the girl that we sponsor at K House, both her parents were killed by snake bite, which I didn't know but there are lot of poisonous snakes in Nepal. She and her sister were living with an uncle who couldn't afford it. K House was able to take the two in.

Just read about a little 20-month-old girl. Her father murdered her mother in front of her eyes and escaped to India. They found her crying over her mother's body, so they took her in. They had never taken anyone so young before; but it's amazing how the other girlsglom on and take care of these new kids coming in.

Bottom line is they have all sorts of programs that do great things for kids, who are raised in poverty and taken advantage of, and they have programs for parents, how to use local foods that are relatively inexpensive to provide meals that are nourishing, for example. They have vocational training, all that kind of stuff.

The idea that one person could change the world; you know that's not true on a big scale. But this is a case—and there are others—where one person can change many lives by what they've done, and the founder has done that.

T&D: Finally, we ask every Elder this question: what advice would you give an apprentice or Association-level official, who is just beginning an officiating career?

- Don't be late: arrive 45 minutes before your event starts, 60 minutes for the vault.
- If you can't attend a meet after accepting, let someone know.
- Review your event rules frequently.
- Do each job associated with an event at some point.
- Don't hesitate to ask questions on how things are done or why something was done.
- Be willing or even ask to do events you haven't worked before so you can fill in if needed. You are much more valuable if you're diversified.
- Even branch out and get some experience in vertical jumps.

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John Murray **Officials Chair** for general questions and comments (916) 359 6394 or chairjm@aol.com

Phil Leake, Vice Chair @ pgal1@sbcglobal.net

John Lilygren, Secretary @ jlilygren@gmail.com



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Steve Green

Bruce Colman, Past Chair @ brucecolman@earthlink.net

AT LARGE REPRESENTATIVES

Steve Green @ greener77@aol.com

George Kleeman @ George_Kleeman@comcast.net



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Shirley Connors, Training Chair @ soc.tnf@att.net

Jim Hume, **CertChair** for questions about certification (650)-571-5913 or jimhume.certchair@sbcglobal.net

Dr. Leon Glover, Awards Chair @ lglover@tycoelectronics.com

PRINCIPAL CONTACT INFORMATION YOU MIGHT FIND USEFUL

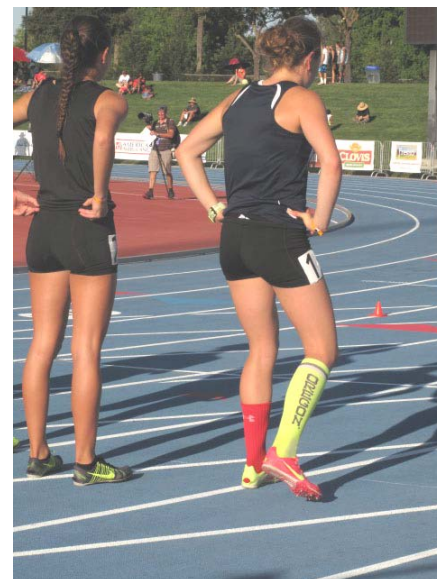
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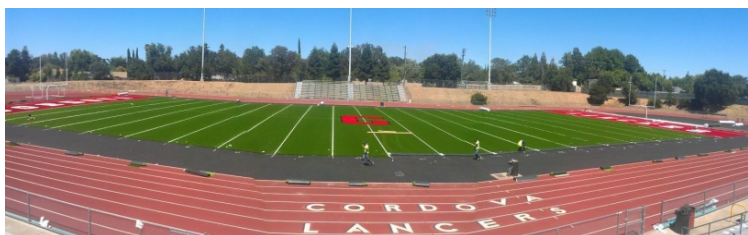
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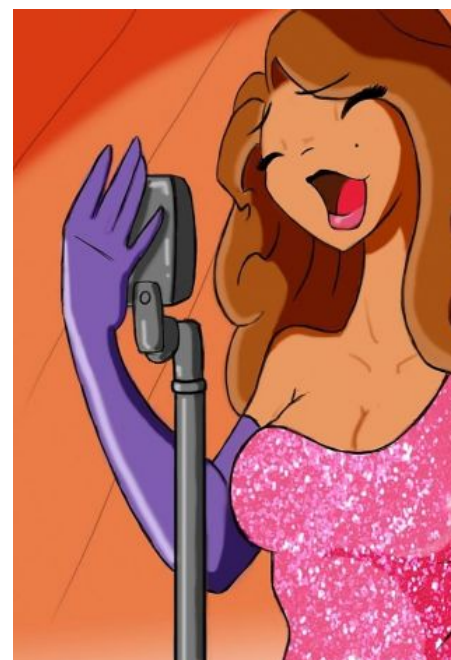


Pacific Association starters **Chuck Buettner** and **Leroy Milam** were selected to work the California State High School meet in Clovis. It was a warm night for starter's red jackets and all. Was Los Altos High 800m/1600m runner **Nikki Hiltz/12** making a fashion statement with that yellow sock with Oregon running down the side, or was she giving a hint as to where she plans to enroll in September?



Megan Cook, a Master Level Electronic Measurement Judge, clerk and chem teacher at Cordova High sends along this picture of their refurbished track and infield. This time they put electricity on the infield by the finish line.

Phil Leake, see the article on page 2, gave a web site which yielded this photo of the design for the new fields at Del Campo High. Click on the URL in the article for they have an interesting web site.



Sanger High junior **Vicki Arevalo** spent most of her night at the California state meet with her head stuck in the bucket watching her FieldLynx screen as she recorded all the high jumps.

Vashti Thomas (see the article on page 2) "transferred from Texas A&M University to study her passion, Graphic Design." Is that Vashti singing? Is is her design.