

all right for others. I'm still the fastest, I'm the second fastest 800m runner; I'd be very disappointed if they didn't pick me. Give me a week and I'll be back, I still think I can run 3:33''.

Heats (a) (First 3 & 3 fastest losers to final). Ht. 1: 1, P. Larkins (W&B) 3:44.76; 2, R. Harrison (Bir) 3:44.86; 3, G. Staines (Bel) 3:45.26; 4, N. Horsfield (Newp) 3:45.35; 5, T. Buckner (Havant) 3:48.83; 6, P. Taylor (Cope) 3:49.67; 7, M. Quinn (Stret) 3:51.43; 8, N. Tyler (Hav) 3:52.66; 9, B. Brennan (M&S) 3:56.69. **Ht. 2:** 1, D. Taylor (Irl) 3:47.05; 2, J. Gladwin (Bel) 3:47.54; 3, D. Perry (B'mth) 3:48.83; 4, W. Foster (B'ht) 3:48.14; 5, N. Ovington (TVH) 3:49.06; 6, R. McDonnell (M&S) 3:50.28; 7, S. Azoulai (Isr) 3:52.21; 8, T. Redman (Cov) 3:53.83; 9, R. Hackney (AF&D) 3:54.51. **Ht. 3:** 1, A. Passey (B&R) 3:45.17; 2, C. McGeorge (Cock) 3:45.44; 3, S. Crabb (Enf) 3:45.49; 4, T. Moloney (Irl) 3:45.61; 5, G. Brown (Car) 3:46.33; 6, A. Mottershead (Stret) 3:46.89; 7, E. Curren (Irl) 3:49.74; 8, S. Faulkner (Phoe) 3:53.14; 9, K. Green (Aus) 3:54.10; 10, A. Johnson (Els) 3:58.46; 11, A. Iszatt (SLH) 4:01.91.

Final. 1, GLADWIN 3:35.93 (CBP); 2, CRABB 3:38.04; 3, LARKINS 3:38.19; 4, HORSFIELD 3:38.21; 5, TAYLOR (Irl) 3:40.34; 6, BROWN 3:40.69; 7, PASSEY 3:41.82; 8, STAINES 3:45.29; 9, Moloney (Irl) 3:47.75; 10, McGeorge 3:49.54; 11, Perry 3:52.17; Harrison dnf.

5000 METRES

Two seasons ago it seemed as though British 5000m running was set to really take off. That turned out to be a bit of a damp squib, but at least the spearhead of that world challenge, Tim Hutchings, is rounding into form nicely, and, following an impressive win in the final Gaymer's Road Race, he added the AAA 5000m title to his list with a timely finishing effort.

The early pace was fairly pedestrian with a 68.1 opening lap, and the lead changed continually with John Treacy, Geoff Turnbull and Hutchings all taking turns in the opening two kilometres (5:26.36). Up at the front also was Petr Klimes, Mark Rowland, Dave Lewis, Steve Jones and Mark Roberts, and they passed three kilometres in 8:09.69 with the pace picking up. With three and a half laps to go, a breakaway group of four made the challenge for the medals; an easy looking Hutchings being tailed by Buckner, Lewis and Petr Klimes. Pavel Klimes and John Treacy were soon ten to 15m adrift and the same four went through four kilometres in 10:53.25. Klimes was the first to drop off, but it looked as though Hutchings might lose out when Buckner surged in front just before the bell (12:26.81). Holding on though, the Crawley man came past a fully stretched Buckner at the start of the home straight to secure his Games spot, but the pace of the race did nothing to detract from the probability of Steve Ovett's selection for this event, in spite of him not having raced 5000m for six years now.

1, T. HUTCHINGS (Craw) 13:25.03; 2, J. BUCKNER (Charn) 13:26.08; 3, PETR KLIMES (Lon. I) 13:31.54; 4,

D. LEWIS (Ross) 13:33.09; 5, PAVEL KLIMES (Lon. I) 13:38.35; 6, J. TREACY (Irl) 13:42.68; 7, S. JONES (Newp) 13:43.03; 8, M. ROBERTS (Stoke) 13:49.85; 9, P. Magner (Tip) 13:51.16; 10, R. O'Flynn (Irl) 13:51.75; 11, S. Lamb (Bas) 13:55.12; 12, G. Turnbull (Gate) 13:57.78; 13, C. Mochrie (Leic) 13:57.90; 14, A. Salter (Bir) 14:01.07; 15, A. Bristow (B&H) 14:03.06; 16, G. Whitney (US) 14:03.90; 17, B. Rushworth (Sun) 14:07.08; 18, P. Cuskin (J&H) 14:07.43.

10,000 METRES

At the end of last season it looked for all the world as if we were heading for the situation where international selections for this event may be influenced by performances on the road. Thankfully perhaps this may be avoided, as newcomer to the event — in fact debutant on the track — 23-year-old Jonathan Solly, ran a superb race to beat a class field full of experience.

Unlike in the 5000, the pace was good from the start, with kilometre splits of 2:47.29, 5:33.56, 8:21.74, 11:10.45 and 13:58.34 to halfway. Steve Binns seemed to have led for most of the way, while Dave Clarke, Steve Harris, Carl Thackery, Solly, Mike McLeod, Jon Richards, and Mark Dalloway were all up in the leading group. Also making his debut on the track, Paul Davies-Hale had been running around halfway down the field but never really made any impression and dropped out before 6km, victim of a 'flu bug he had been carrying prior to the race. Thackery took them through that point in 16:46.19, tailed by Harris, Binns, Solly, Nick Rose, McLeod, Clarke, Julian Goater and Barry Smith, but by 7km there was a clear group of six runners as Binns, Rose, Thackery, Solly, McLeod and Clarke forged clear.

The decider came with six laps to go as Solly took up the running and split the pack with a 63.95 lap, initially taking only Nick Rose with him. Rose was never to get on terms though, and that was to prove his undoing as he soon faded back down the field. By 8km Solly was 20m clear of Binns with Thackery and McLeod 40m further back, and that was how it stayed, more or less, with McLeod obviously running for third, which he secured 80m from the line.

Solly had planned his attack for the point at which it occurred, and said afterwards: "I didn't even look at the lap counter except to check when to go. I was just trying to switch off totally. I knew I was capable of running very fast, I had nothing to lose and I knew I had run one on the road". With no other form to go on, this was obviously the race to be selected on and McLeod was pleased with his effort saying: "That's the hardest thing about Games, just to qualify!"

(a) 1, J. SOLLY (Bing) 27:51.76; 2, S. BINNS (Bing) 27:58.61; 3, M. McLEOD (Els) 28:02.83; 4, C. THACKERY (Hallam) 28:03.68; 5, N. ROSE (Bris) 28:06.37; 6, D. CLARKE (HW) 28:08.78; 7, K. HARRISON (Stret) 28:11.07; 8, J. GOATER (RAF) 28:11.89; 9, J.

Richards (Corn) 28:14.08; 10, M. McLoughlin (Liv. P) 28:15.58; 11, J. Woods (Liv) 28:20.13; 12, M. Scrutton (Ton) 28:23.04; 13, R. Mulligan (Irl) 28:29.93; 14, S. Harris (Har) 28:13.63; 15, B. Smith (Gate) 28:31.85; 16, C. Robinson (SV) 28:39.35; 17, D. Murphy (Liv) 28:42.15; 18, P. Tootell (Stret) 28:57.71; 9, M. Dalloway (Stour) 28:58.09; 20, S. Anders (St. H) 29:01.31; 21, J. Bowden (NZ) 29:02.34; 22, C. Moore (Bing) 29:11.15; 23, T. Milovsorov (Tip) 29:16.50; 24, A. Catton (Ilf) 29:29.25; 25, J. Wheway (Tip) 29:36.03; 26, S. Emson (W&B) 29:43.63; 27, H. Jones (Rane) 29:44.09; 28, G. Nagel (Gate) 29:47.81.

3000m STEEPLECHASE

Looking at the entries, this could have been another of the top races of the Championships with Colin Reitz and Roger Hackney both there. They didn't appear however, and it was left to Eddie Wedderburn, a clear favourite in their absence, to pick up the title. Apart from these three, there still doesn't seem that much of a future for this event in Britain, unless Paul Davies-Hale runs it seriously again, although Northern Ireland's Peter McColgan and Sale's Nick Peach have improved dramatically over the past year.

Andy Taylor led the field round the opening laps but they all remained bunched until the sixth lap when Wedderburn took the initiative and pulled Peach, Taylor and Colin Walker with him. The latter two weren't to maintain the pace though, and let the two leaders open 20m at the bell (7:30.4), later fading in the frantic finish for minor placings. Peach tried to seize his chance on the last lap and led until the final barrier, when Wedderburn, a fairly good hurdler, negotiated it the better and came away to a close win. Only a second separated the next three, who all recorded lifetime bests and with age on their sides could be useful in the future. But there's a lot of work to do yet!

1, E. WEDDERBURN (Tip) 8:33.03; 2, N. PEACH (Sale) 8:33.89; 3, J. HARTIGAN (Bir) 8:38.67; 4, D. BAPTISTE (TVH) 8:38.97; 5, T. FIELDSSEND (Sheff) 8:39.62; 6, A. TAYLOR (Ken) 8:42.37; 7, C. WALKER (Gate) 8:43.85; 8, P. BARRATT (Wok) 8:49.52; 9, M. Hayes (Bel) 8:53.16; 10, B. Knight (Torb) 9:05.43; 11, S. Jones (Blay) 9:09.13; 12, G. Zeuner (Aus) 9:12.77.

110m HURDLES

With the exception of two guesting Americans who placed seventh and eighth, this was a domestic affair, but the England selectors will still have to go down to fifth to select their top three as the event was completely Welsh dominated. Colin Jackson came within one hundredth of his best clocking and put himself in line for a possible hat-trick of medals, in the World Juniors, Commonwealth and European Championships, and finally got the better of his great Junior rival, Jon Ridgeon, now returned from a winter in the States.

That the strength of British high hurdling is at its highest ever there is no doubt, but it has reached a stage now where even sub-14 seconds runners like

Wilbert Greaves can no longer get away with average starts, and he never recovered from his as Jacks was ahead by the first hurdle and never headed. Colin said after the race that he was "A bit mes over the first two hurdles", but that was never obvious. Walker made himself a clear second from the third flight with Ridgeon looking 'ordinary' in the Welshmen's wake. David Nelson, another Junior, came through strongly mid-race to overhaul Ridgeon and despite the latter's deep lunge at the line stay clear for the third placed medal. It is unlikely that will secure him a spot for Athens though, what was Ridgeon's 13.66 this year and his proven track record.

Jackson's aims now are to run in all three major championships, and he said: "I'm still working a more on speed because I'm sprinting as well this year, but it's only June and there is still a lot to come".

Heats (a) (winners & 4 fastest losers to final). 1

1: (+3.0m) 1, J. Ridgeon (Har) 13.92; 2, R. Cox (US) 14.3; 3, A. Tulloch (W&B) 14.28; 4, J. Wallace (N&EB) 14.5; 5, G. Dunson (RAF) 14.47; 6, B. St. Louis (HHH) 14.7; 7, M. Erysthee (Met. P) 15.12; 8, A. Finnemore (B& 15.33. **Ht. 2:** (+2.2m) 1, C. Jackson (Car) 13.74; 2, Buckeridge (Bir) 14.34; 3, P. Gray (Car) 14.73; 4, M. I (C&S) 14.87; 5, M. Effiong (HW) 14.89; 6, D. Finne (Irl) 14.97; 7, P. Donohoe (Irl) 15.58; B. Mullin (Irl) 19. disq. **Ht. 3:** (+2.7m) 1, W. Greaves (Har) 13.70; 2, Teape (Bir) 14.17; 3, C. Hampstead (US) 14.22; 4, Hamplett (B' hth) 14.46; 5, D. Wilkinson (Lut) 14.49; 6, Bunce (Notts) 14.52; 7, E. Harrison (Lon. I) 15.48. 1 4: (+1.9m) 1, N. Walker (Car) 13.94; 2, D. Nelson (W& 13.96; 3, A. Jarrett (Har) 14.23; 4, A. Tapp (Bir) 14.5; 5, K. Pascoe (TVH) 14.92; 6, T. Kearns (Irl) 15.02.

Final. (+1.4m) 1, JACKSON 13.51; 2, WALKER 13.9; 3, NELSON 13.91; 4, RIDGEON 13.92; 5, GREAVES 14.02; 6, TEAPE 14.09; 7, COX (US) 14.26; 8, HAMPLETT (US) 14.30.

400m HURDLES

Mark Holtom, top of the UK lists last year, finally started to show some real form after a slow start to the season, but he is still only second fastest in the club as Max Robertson has capitalised on his sub-form of last season and is looking unbeatable on the domestic front. A UK title in 49.99, the Southern crown in 49.56 and now the AAA's in 49.53, a has confirmed him as number one, despite a strong start to the season by Gary Oakes.

A comfortable heat win in 50.55 made him a favourite along with Frenchman Philippe Goniga who clocked a 49.96 the previous week. Robertson was away hard in the final, despite the wind in the back straight, but enjoyed only a metre or so advantage at halfway over Holtom. Oakes ran strong round the second bend and was almost up with Robertson at hurdle eight, before the latter pulled away. Great progress was made over the last t