

was left thinking he should have been much closer to Koskei if he is to have any degree of success should he go to Helsinki.

1, S. Koskei (Ken) 1:45.09; 2, G. Cook 1:46.05; 3, S. Cram 1:46.53; 4, S. Caldwell 1:46.83; 5, P. Barnes 1:46.87; 6, M. Solomon (Trin) 1:47.18; 7, Gladwin 1:47.66; 8, P. Bourke (Aus) 1:47.73; 9, M. Shea (US) 1:47.99; 10, J. Bereczki (Hun) 1:49.64.

1000: Providing the only British track winner at the meeting, Steve Ovett gave further proof that his Helsinki build-up is right on schedule with one of his Crystal Palace specials.

Roy's elder brother, Brian Dickens, did the inside-work here, leading through 400m in 54.1 (Ovett 56.0) and 600 in 1:21.9 (1:24.3), before taking way for Peter Elliott to lead through two laps in 1:51.2. By now Ovett was moving up through the gears, and with a characteristic kick at the bend left all and sundry well-beaten.

Little was proved except (and, surely, nobody would even have doubted it) that Ovett has the assurance of Elliott anytime, anywhere and over any distance, and that he is now firmly re-rated as Crystal Palace's number one son.

1, S. Ovett 2:17.26; 2, P. Elliott 2:17.65; 3, R. Harrison 2:17.78; 4, J. Mays (US) 2:19.34; 5, P. Riggate 2:19.79; 6, I. Szalai (Hun) 2:20.38; 7, R. Redon 2:21.39; 8, P. Neves (US) 2:21.79; 9, P. Bert (Aus) 2:24.03.

500: If the Paris defeat at the hands of Josefs Gonzalez was hard to swallow, an even more

bitter pill was handed out to Seb Coe in this one as the seldom mentioned (perhaps because it's hard to pronounce) Dragan Zdravkovic provided the upset of the evening.

American Dan Aldridge, in true Dickensian fashion, cut out a healthy early pace, slipping through 400m in 54.9 and two laps in 1:53.1; and with Coe and Craig Masback poised to take over when he bowed out it looked increasingly likely that the Olympic champion would float away to the 3:33-ish that would both dismiss the French effort and enhance his claim to a Helsinki 800m/1500m double challenge.

That finale looked even more likely, when, with 500m remaining, Coe hit the front for the first time; and almost a certainty when he struggled off Masback's challenge at the 200 mark. What wasn't in the script, though, was that when he asked his legs for that final effort on the crown of the last bend, nothing was there.

Obviously sensing that it was 'on', Zdravkovic, who, hitherto, had been just another 'rabbit', closed quickly and struck hard with 80m left. Even though the Yugoslav won the European Indoor Championship 3000m back in March, and has 3:35.44 (1500m)/7:40.49 (3000m) times to his credit this summer, nobody really believed what they were seeing. The impossible had happened. Again.

1, D. Zdravkovic (Yug) 3:35.28; 2, S. Coe 3:36.03; 3, W. Waigwa (Ken) 3:36.62; 4, C. Masback (US) 3:36.81; 5, T. Harbour (US) 3:37.69; 6, I. Oetvoes (Hun) 3:37.82; 7, B. Theriot (US) 3:38.74; 8, E. Martin 3:40.54; 9, A. Salter 3:40.81; 10, P. Scammell (Aus) 3:41.44; 11, M. Gilchrist (NZ) 3:41.55; 12, A. Blackwell 3:42.87; 13, J. Webster 3:47.73.

2000: John Walker and Ray Flynn showed in no uncertain terms the difference between world class middle-distance runners and mere 'internationals', as they ripped away from a good class field on the last lap. Laps of 62.8, 62.8, 60.4 and 60.8 were followed by a 53.9 last 400 from the New Zealander as he repelled everything the game Irishman threw at him. For what it's worth, Walker's last four laps and a bit constituted yet another sub-four minute mile.

1, J. Walker (NZ) 5:00.79; 2, R. Flynn (Irl) 5:01.65; 3, E. Wedderburn 5:04.16; 4, A. Dixon (US) 5:04.51; 5, D. Clarke 5:04.75; 6, W. Dee 5:04.85; 7, C. Reitz 5:05.64; 8, M. Chorlton 5:07.34; 9, R. Hackney 5:07.99; 10, J. Bowden (NZ) 5:09.59; 11, G. Guy (Jam) 5:11.99; 12, G. Balogh (Hun) 5:13.03; 13, G. Marko (Hun) 5:13.48; 14, P. Lawther 5:13.76.

3000: If he's in this sort of form, it's hard to imagine anybody will stop Eamonn Coghlan winning the 5000m in Helsinki. He disputed the lead as early as the second lap before hitting the front in the last three laps and putting together kilometre splits of 2:33.7, 2:36.2 and 2:36.5 for a 7:46.4 clocking. Thom Hunt and Richard Callan

made great inroads into the Irishman's lead on the final circuit, Callan being rewarded with a pb by some four seconds.

1, E. Coghlan (Irl) 7:46.40; 2, R. Callan 7:47.56; 3, T. Hunt (US) 7:48.58; 4, R. Tuwei (Ken) 7:49.58; 5, M. Scrutton 7:50.38; 6, P. Davies-Hale 7:51.18; 7, J. Goater 7:52.77; 8, S. Jones 7:53.12; 9, G. Smith 7:53.80; 10, S. Binns 7:53.98; 11, K. Martin (US) 7:55.11; 12, M. Downes 7:56.94; 13, C. Spedding 7:57.40; 14, R. de Castella (Aus) 8:00.74; 15, G. Payne 8:00.98; 16, S. Marshall (NZ) 8:03.62; 17, J. Andrews (Aus) 8:04.25; 18, P. Tootell 8:04.68; 19, G. Butcher 8:11.99.

110H: Into a 1.4m/s headwind, Tonie Campbell and Sam Turner put on a blistering display of high hurdling, with narrowest of margins separating them at the line, Campbell somewhat surprisingly holding on.

Mark Holtom turned back the clock and reminded us of just how badly he can start, but was powering through to, probably, third place before he crashed through the ninth barrier and lost all his rhythm. Unfortunately, Nigel Walker was in the neighbouring lane and found Holtom's hurdle there as well as his own when the time came, reducing him to the dnf category.

1, T. Campbell (US) 13.54; 2, S. Turner (US) 13.55; 3, M. Allen (US) 13.94; 4, D. Wright (Aus) 14.01; 5, L. Cowan 14.41; 6, M. Holtom 14.63; 7, M. Holtom 15.21; N. Walker dnf.

400H: Ahmed Hamada — from Bahrain — led

Wilbert Greaves through halfway, only for both men to fall to the hands of Rik Tommelein in the second half. Greaves pulled ahead round the final bend, but Hamada found enough in the run-in to claim second spot as the Belgian faded at the death. Paul Atherton and Steve Sole were disappointing, but at least Greaves has now joined them under 51 seconds for the season.

1, R. Tommelein (Bel) 50.56; 2, A. Hamada (Bah) 50.58; 3, W. Greaves 50.95; 4, P. Rwamuhanda (Uga) 51.08; 5, P. Atherton 51.10; 6, P. Beattie 51.53; 7, P. Squella (Chile) 51.73; 8, S. Sole 52.47.

High Jump: James Howard, who didn't make the US team for Helsinki, won on countback from Leo Williams, who did, as both cleared 2.27m on the third attempt, while American champion Dwight Stones wound up equal fourth. Trevor Llewelyn enjoyed his finest ever competition: not only did he raise his Welsh record to 2.20 but he was bracketed in the results with former Olympic champion Jacek Wszola. New UK record holder Geoff Parsons was away on junior international duty.

1, J. Howard (US) 2.27; 2, L. Williams (US) 2.27; 3, M. Ottey (Can) 2.24; 4 eq, D. Stones (US) & B. Fields (US) 2.20; 6 eq, J. Wszola (Pol) & T. Llewelyn 2.20; 8, B. Thierfelder (US) 2.15; 9, R. Charles 2.10; 10, M. Lakey 2.10; M. Barrett (Aus) no ht (2.10).

Pole Vault: Dan Ripley's first-time success at 5.50m won the event, Wladyslaw Kozakiewicz

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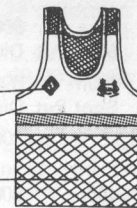
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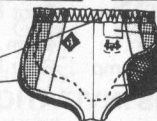
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