Sports Spectacular A Success

A unique experiment in holding a Long Distance Run and a Bicycle Race at the same time was carried out by employees at SLAC on Friday August 31st. A crowd of approximately 150 interested spectators watched the proceedings get underway at Sector 30. Jim Basket from Plant Maintenance operated the HTI Stud Gun and the shots rang out loud and clear to start the races off.

In the Bicycle Event there were seven entrants. (Unfortunately, one participant, Dave McQuade, collapsed a wheel while making the turn at Sector 30, but he was not injured. Tough luck, Dave -- understand you were really "truckin" before that happened.) The winner (under 35 category) was David Uggla from Group G with a time of 21:26 for the 7.6 mile circuit -- Congratulations, Dave. Second under 35 was Bob Woolston (Electronics), 21:40. Martin Berndt (EFD), 1st over 35, 21:56. Don Burwell (Data Analysis), 2nd over 35, 22:20. The two ladies participating did extremely well and their times were only eight seconds apart. Gloria Strelchuk (DA), 22:23 and Gloria Cardenas (Stores), 22:31. Thanks for participating. Hope we can have more ladies enter next year.

The Long Distance Run attracted 19 entrants, and what a fast race this turned out to be! Last year's winning time was beaten by no less than seven runners. Winner (under 35) and new arrival from Purdue University was Dave Cathiell (Theory). This guy really moves. His time for the 3.6 mile course was 21:19. Wow! Second place went to Alex Gallegos (SPEAR) who turned in a spectacular time of 21:24, his best ever at this distance. Alex has worked hard and long preparing for this event and put on a tremendous display to stay with the winner. Ron Hover entered his son Gregg (17) who turned in an excellent 21:30 for unofficial third place. Official third place went to Bill Divita (Stores) whose 22:07 was also a personal best. In the "over 35" category, Yours Truly took first place with 23:05. John Alcorn (ME) came in 2nd in that category with 23:06, his best time ever. Charlie Haard (ME) was first place winner in the "over 49" category with 31:14. Charlie deserves honorable mention for his fine performance.

Starting with the 4th arrival at the finish line, the sequence of runners is as follows:

4th - Ted Syrett (CO), 23:06. Fantastic improvement over last year, Ted.
5th - Ken Moore (PMU), 23:09.
6th - Alan Schmierer (Labor Pool), 23:15. (A 2 1/2 minute improvement over last year.)
7th - John Alcorn, 23:05.
8th - Mike Cargin (E), 23:06.
9th - Gerard Putallaz (HBC), 23:23. Gerard hurried back from Switzerland to catch the race. Excellent time, Gerard, considering you were unable to train.
10th - Jeff Newmeyer (Theory), 23:21.
12th - Ezekiel Wilkerson (Labor Pool), 23:37.
13th - Cary Kritikas (Stores), 23:37.
14th - Charlie Haard, 23:36.
15th - Carl Altman and Garrett Schierholz (both in Theory Group) tied with 23:39.

Our thanks to all who helped in the event. The timers: Phil Davies, Walt Aikens, Bill Kinker, Ron Hover, and Walter Bruehler. The Health Physics Group, Surveillance, Medical Department, and crowd control expert, Jim Basket, were all a help. George Petrie and the Riggers did an excellent job with the refreshment booth, aptly named the "Kool-It Lounge." We hope to hold these races again next year and welcome your suggestions for ways to improve. The Group Jogs will continue to be held, and the next one is at Thanksgiving. If the bicycle riders would like to join us, we would be glad to have them.

Thanks for all the participation, and keep on "truckin."

Ken Moore
Plant Maintenance

Everybody here is pretty spry-looking (before the race). From left to right, Bob Woolston, Charlie Haard, Don Burwell, and Gloria Strelchuk.

Photo courtesy of Vern Smith.

Starting line-up for the Bicycle Race.