

*Frederick 1975*

JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

TM-1  
(Track Memorandum)

TO: Distribution  
FROM: Official Race Recorder  
SUBJECT: Results of First Annual April Fool's Day Microthon

Be it known to all, that on the Day of Fools in the year 1975, The Relay Microthon, an Earth-shaking tradition, was initiated by the track stars of Divisions 13 and 39. On the Program for the 180 Planners was Enduring Dick, who courageously ran two laps for his team, and Leaping Lou, who brought up the rear. The Thirty-Niners line-up can be decomposed as follows: Jocky John, Lean-and-Lusty Len, and Kindly Ken.

The Great Race shaped up as an early mismatch when Jocky John put in a blazing time of 15:35 for the first lap around the 2.5 mile Arroyo Seco Course and Gravel Pit. John later attributed his success to prayer and meditation and total abstinence from other forms of physical activity which might have sapped his strength. Enduring Dick, still in training for the Boston Marathon, ran by the start-finish line after John's dust had cleared in a respectable time of 16:23. But Lusty Len, in front of him, was already stretching the lead as he displayed the form which led one gravel pit worker to remark, "Who are those idiots out there?" As Len churned across the finish line with a time of 16:02, Enduring Dick was barely in sight, having missed his exit on the Foothill Freeway. He eventually appeared and crossed the line with a time of 17:13 for his second lap.

The crowd sensed the tension, as Leaping Lou set out to catch Kindly Ken, who had almost a full two minute advantage on him. Ken, whose bright blue track suit was voted Best of the Meet by an independent panel of judges, stood the challenge well. Putting in the worst time of the day he strategically lost one minute and seven seconds of his lead to Leaping Lou, still crossing the line fifty-two seconds ahead of his competition. Ken's final time of 19:29 gave the Thirty-Niners a total time and new World Record for the Arroyo Seco Microthon of 51:06. The 18:22 lap of Leaping Lou brought the 180 Planners the second best time ever recorded of 51:58.

Various protests were filed after the finish and are now under review. Jocky John's fine time was revealed to be the result of his having hid his Honda along the course, and having ridden it for 2.3 miles of the 2.5 mile lap. At the same time, Enduring Dick was repeatedly set upon by several neighborhood dogs who were attracted by his red shorts. Lusty Len was similarly distracted by three JPL secretaries eating lunch in the park, who

stopped him to admire his sweat bands. Kindly Ken's poor time was attributed to his stopping to take a call from Jesse Moore concerning the future of SEP. This enabled Leaping Lou to cut his lead by taking a short-cut and swimming across the reservoir. Had it not been Passover, and Lou so full of matzoh, he might have caught him.

The Award Ceremony was presided over by the Race Queen, Satellite Sylvia, who awarded the First Plate Beer Can to the victorious team. Sylvia then personally and warmly congratulated each winning member in a manner they will not soon forget. The winners were then each granted the title of Arroy Seco Freako, positions they will hold for at least one year to come.

The day ended with the traditional Feast of Fools held in Oak Grove Park, and much spirit was consumed by all.

TIME TALLY

	<u>Thirty-Niners</u>		<u>180 Planners</u>	
Lap 1	Beckman	15:35	Davies	16:23
Lap 2	Efron	16:02	Davies	17:13
Lap 3	Atkins	<u>19:29</u>	Friedman	<u>18:22</u>
		51:06		51:58 Ephemeris Time

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