

# Rodgers, Simonsick Capture Honors in 10-Kilometer Run

By Matt Amodio  
Special to The Washington Post

His age has suddenly become a prime topic for conversation, but Bill Rodgers continues to put to rest any doubts about his ability to outdistance the road-race competition.

The 33-year-old four-time Boston Marathon champion, admittedly tired and feeling the aches from a record-breaking 20-kilometer run Saturday in Wheeling, W.Va., ran to a methodical victory here yesterday in the Diet Pepsi 10-kilometer run.

With the temperature hovering near 80 degrees at the start of the race, Rodgers led about 2,700 runners through a winding, scenic 6.2 mile route that concluded on the grounds of the Smithsonian.

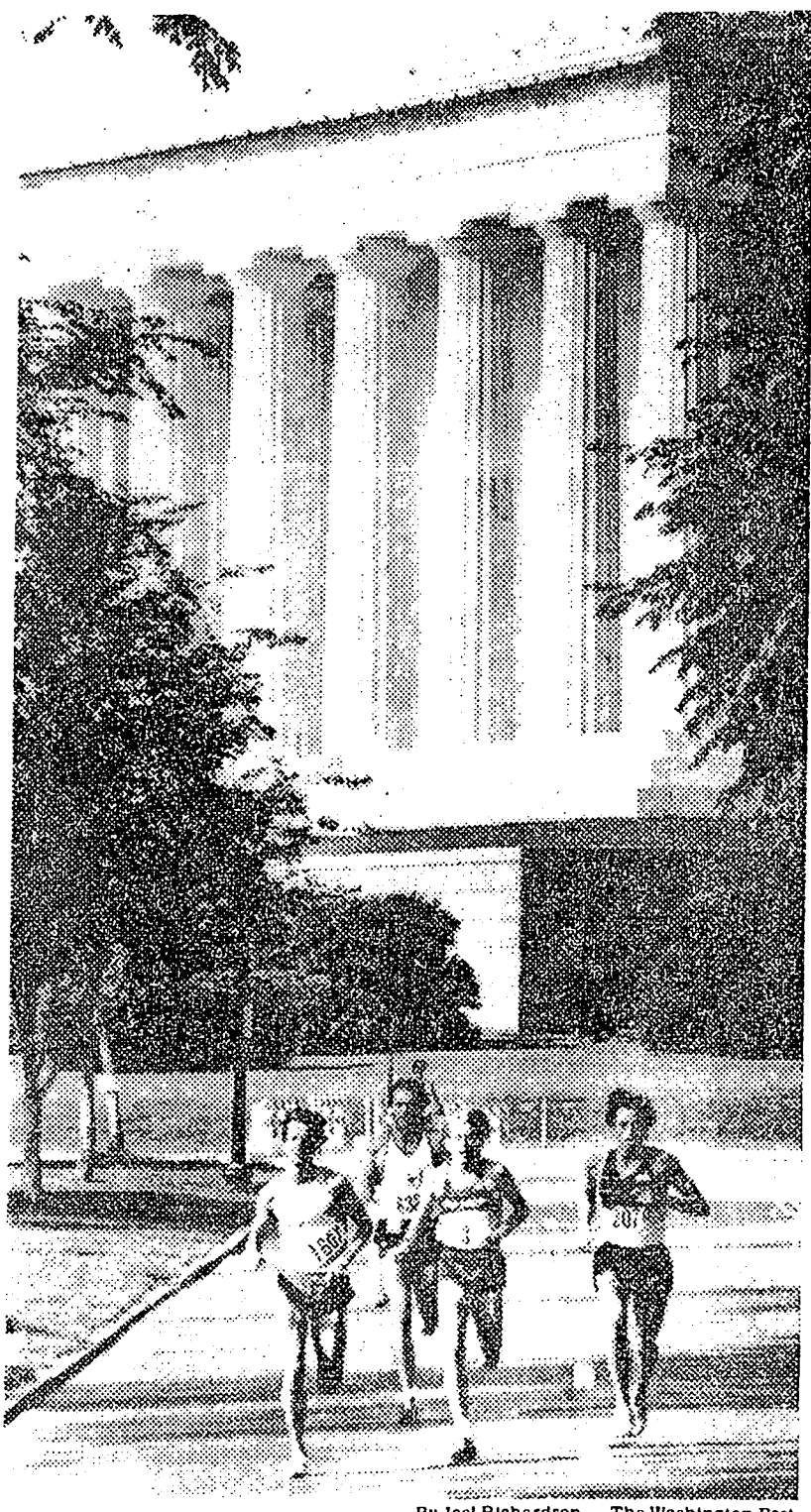
Jeff Peterson of Fairfax battled Rodgers up to the four-mile mark, when the veteran pulled away to win in 29:40. Peterson finished at 30:14. Washington's Eleanor Simonsick, 23, was the first woman to cross the finish line, in 35:55. Charlene Burstrom, 14, of Arlington, placed second in 37:33.

Peterson, a member of the Washington Running Club, said Rodgers could have been beaten but that there was no one on the Mall with as much training and experience as Rodgers to do the job. "He's getting old," Peterson said, "but he's still very tough."

"I knew there were no runners brought in for this race," said Rodgers, "but at the starting line someone told me to watch out for Peterson. He worried me for a while and I jumped out a little too fast. It was good for us to battle it out."

Rodgers took the lead at the three-mile mark behind the White House and slowly lengthened the margin with his long strides. After conquering a slight incline on the mostly flat course, which he described as easy and fun, Rodgers appeared to bounce on air as he sprinted by the Cannon Building toward the tape.

Spectators and runners then proceeded to deluge Rodgers, seeking autographs. Rodgers, winner of the Cherry Blossom Classic here earlier this spring, spent more time with pen in hand than he did on the course.



By Joel Richardson — The Washington Post  
Bill Rodgers, No. 3, has some company at the Lincoln Memorial.

# Diplomats Fashioned a Twin Killing: Triumph Over Cosmos, a Stylish Show

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a header was something on a car, knew the first half was special. It was nonstop intensity that produced all the game's goals and some stunning work by Dip players still getting to know one another.

"It reminded me of a good cup game in England," said Washington striker Ross Jenkins. "We were so taken up with the atmosphere of the occasion. I'd like to have had time to enjoy it. Halftime was on us before we knew it."

If soccer were hockey, Jenkins would have gotten an assist on the goal he scored to give Washington the lead 123 seconds into the game. Near midfield, he knocked a pass to Bradford, who dribbled toward the right corner and shot a pass back to Jenkins 15 yards in front of the goal.

The pass from the shortest man in the NASL, the 5-foot-5 Bradford, to the tallest man in the NASL, the 6-6 Jenkins, curved behind a braking Cosmos player. From perhaps 25 yards, it was so accurate that Jenkins snatched it home, with his left foot, almost the instant it arrived.

"As beautiful a goal as you'll see," Bradford said.

The next was a dream goal, by

## West Germany Wins, 4-0

LAHTI, Finland, May 24 (UPI) — West Germany crushed Finland, 4-0, today in a World Cup qualifying game.

The victory put West Germany on top of Group One in Europe with a maximum eight points in four games. Finland is last with no points and no goals in five games.

rookie Ole Mikkelsen, a two-time all-America from UCLA making his home debut as a Diplomat.

"I don't know about the others," he said, "but we Americans are able to psyche ourselves up for games like this. Two days beforehand you're dreaming and saying to yourself: 'Here's one move, here's another.' You're dreaming of scoring a goal."

Six minutes after Jenkins' goal, Mikkelsen acted out his fantasy.

"On that corner," he said, "what happens depends on how Jenkins hits the ball with his head. He either can flick it toward the goal, or backward toward someone coming on. I was sitting behind him, waiting, as he and some others (including Cosmos goalkeeper Hubert Birkenmeier) went up for it."

"Then I made a split-second decision to go to a spot — and there it was (as Jenkins and Birkenmeier fell to the ground). All I had to do was hit it. No thinking, no guessing. The goal was six feet away — I just let it go with as much velocity as I could."

These first-half Dips were as offense-minded as anyone could expect. The reason, Hill explained, was that the Cosmos allowed them to play.

"Soccer's not like football or basketball," he said. "In those sports, a team just can't sit back and play defense all the time. In soccer, a team can put nine men back there, like Dallas did (Sunday). We played like this first half the first 15 minutes against the Cosmos up there, but we didn't score (and eventually lost on a disputed goal)."

"After we didn't get anything out of that effort, there was a letdown, like we were playing the Argentines, the

best team in the world — as though we said, 'My God,' and froze a bit. Tonight, we attacked. I was glad we could show the people of Washington that we can play as offensively as anyone."

Still, Coach Ken Furphy has some George Allen in him. The Dips were cautious early in the second half — and understandably obsessed with defense when Bradford was ejected from the game with 18 minutes left. Having established flair, it was time for heroic caution — and luck.

"We were thinking about sending to the dressing room for oxygen," Hill said of the mood in the owner's box during that 10-on-11 stretch against a team with one of the most skilled scorers in the sport, Giorgio Chinaglia, who had a goal or an assist in each of his previous 20 games. That streak had ended.

"Sometimes you play better with 10," sweeper Malcom Waldron said, "because everyone knows he has to work a little bit harder."

Goalkeeper Jim Brown made spectacular saves. And one shot by the Cosmos hit the post. Furphy thought the Dips could have played smarter near the end, but was ecstatic about the overall result.

As was NASL Commissioner Phil Woosnam, attending the game. He knows there is a result beyond victory on the field.

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