



RUNNER'S WORLD

daily news

friday, july 28, 2000

headline news

El Guerrouj aiming for new mile record tonight

The Bislett Games in Oslo, Norway, has seen its share of mile-running glory, including three world records by the legendary British triumvirate of Sebastian Coe (1979), Steve Ovett (1980), and Steve Cram (1985). If all goes as well as Hicham El Guerrouj plans, this Scandinavian venue will see more history tonight.

El Guerrouj will attack his own mile world record of 3:43.13 set at Rome last July. "I've trained very hard and I lost seven pounds," he said. "It would be just fantastic if I could break the mile record 15 years (July 27, 1985) after Cram made it here."

El Guerrouj's last race was in Paris on June 23, where he won the 1500 meters in 3:30.75. Since then he's been at training camp in Morocco. The British newsletter *Athletics International* reported that in one of his training sessions El Guerrouj ran ten 400 meters in 53 seconds and two more in 52.

The Exxon Mobil Dream Mile, which will also include William Chirchir, John Kibowen, and Laban Rotich of Kenya, Hailu Mekonnen of Ethiopia, Mark Carroll of Ireland, and Kevin Sullivan of Canada, will conclude an evening filled with splendid track races.

Suzy Favor Hamilton will face off against the last two world champions, Svetlana Masterkova and Carla Sacramento, in the women's 1500 meters. Sonia O'Sullivan, Violeta Beclea-Szekely, Lidia Chojecka, and Kutre Dulecha will also be in the field.

Noah Ngeny, history's second fastest miler, will also be running tonight, but he's dropped down to the 800 meters where he'll be up against fellow Kenyans Japhet Kimutai, David Kiptoo, Patrick Konchellah, and David Lelei, as well as South Africans Johan Botha and Hezekiel Sepeng, and Norwegian '96 Olympic gold medalist Vebjorn Rodal.

sections

- [Running Shorts](#)
- [Feature Story](#)
- [Daily Bookmark](#)
- [A Brief Chat](#)
- [VCR Alert](#)
- [Weekly Poll](#)
- [Bell Lap](#)
- [Daily Opinion](#)
- [Splits](#)
- [Race Results](#)
- [Leg Leaders](#)
-
- [News Archives](#)
- [Brief Chat Index](#)
- [Search the Archives](#)
- [Yesterday's News](#)