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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Kate Farrington

It's a small world. It's a big world. One of the rewards of working with an emerging technology is watching the expansion into new markets. While placing a FinishLynx system in each U.S. state was a milestone, we are now watching communities of users develop all around the world in a whole spectrum of sports. This growth challenges us to suit our products to a global marketplace. The recent translation of FinishLynx 32 into French, Spanish, Italian, and Japanese is indicative of this expansion. EtherLynx2000 continues to make major inroads - officials were thoroughly impressed with our latest technology at the World Championships in short track speedskating in Nagano, and we are looking forward to introducing it next month to the racers at the 60th All American Soap Box Derby in Ohio. As our world gets bigger, though, we want to get to know you better! Email us at info@finishlynx.com with any suggestions.

DISNEY GETS LYNX - IT'S OFFICIAL



Parade of Nations at the Opening Ceremony

Disney's Wide World of Sports signs on with Lynx The Golden South Classic Track Meet at Walt Disney World, Florida, marked the debut of the latest EtherLynx 2000 as the Official Track and Field Timing System of Walt Disney's Wide World of Sports. The Golden South Classic was the official opening day meet at the nine lane all-weather track, and, despite

some horrendous storms, it was a resounding success. Over 494 athletes from five nations registered for the inaugural meet at the facility which forms part of a 200 acre sports complex. The Lynx technology at the track consists of two fully independent EtherLynx 2000 systems operated from Pentium computers configured on Ethernet networks. Finishlynx uses HyTek database software to seed and score the meets, and this communication is also done over the network. There are two running time clocks (9" digits) on the infield and they are both driven directly from the serial output on the infield camera connection box. The displays at the facility are double-sided 'Raceclocks' made by ElectroNumerics and they are controlled by the FinishLynx 32 software using the electro.lss scoreboard script. In addition, the system at Disney also features LynxTV - a broadcast-quality, graphics-overlay, software and hardware package for integrating running times and record marks into Television productions from the track. All in all, the combination of the state-of-the-art EtherLynx 2000 equipment, the attractiveness of Disney's Wide World of Sports facility, and the

potential draw of these two aspects to athletes and meet organizers, looks like a winner.

FINISHLYNX 32 WOWS NCAA DIVISION 1 CROWDS IN INDIANA

Blazing Speed of Results Production Evident in Stadium Scoreboard Displays.

The simultaneous capture and evaluation feature of FinishLynx 32, coupled with a direct link to the Daktronics stadium display board, and the nimble fingers of the operators from Flash Results, all combined to astonish athletes, coaches and spectators alike at the Division 1 National Track and Field Championships in Indiana.

We are all used to seeing an athlete who wins a race glance up to the scoreboard to see their unofficial time. With FinishLynx 32 a new era of sports data management has arrived - all the athletes are now able to get their official times within seconds of crossing the finish line.

The power of the feature was most evident in the distance races where the times for athletes were displayed on the Daktronics display within 10 seconds of their crossing the line.

Although this feature was displayed on a top of the line matrix board at Nationals, the same feature was in evidence in a far less costly version at the Distance Classic Meet in Brunswick, Maine where Melody Fairchild achieved her world championship qualifying time of 15:30.97.

At the Maine meet, the results produced by Platt Systems of Connecticut were displayed on a Chronomix single-line display to the delight of a foot-stomping packed crowd that saw records fall in every event.

WE GO TO RIO - AGAIN

Michael Johnson and Donovan Bailey Feature in Finishlynx Images



Archive: FinishLynx Image of Michael Johnson

Lynx Director of Manufacturing, Kevin Holden, spent a long week-end in Brazil recently as a consultant to the IAAF Rio Grand Prix competition. The meet featured wins by Donovan Bailey (100m 10.13) and Michael Johnson (200m 20.29). Both track superstars were delighted to autograph FinishLynx images of wins from earlier in their track careers. These signed pictures now adorn the FinishLynx Wall of Fame at our Woburn Headquarters, and they demonstrate, once again, the wide range of applications for the high-quality printouts possible from all

FinishLynx systems.

THE WORLD COMES TO TREXLERTOWN

Lehigh Valley Velodrome Host to World Cup of Cycling

May 29 -31 saw dozens of the world's top cyclists descend on Trexlertown, PA for the



World Cup of Cycling. This year's series of events will be jointly hosted by five other nations: Columbia, Italy, Slovenia, Greece, and Australia. T-Town has been on a high profile roll ever since it hosted another FinishLynx timed event, the US Olympic Team Trials in 1996. Lynx President, Doug DeAngelis, joined Fred Patton and the staff of Phoenix Sports Technologies at the Lehigh Valley Velodrome for this prestigious event which featured another link up between FinishLynx and "Big Mo." "Big Mo" is a huge, truck-mounted, jumbotron display screen which showed live images from the FinishLynx operator's monitor - including a first for us: a cycling dead heat. The display on the huge television screen of this unusual occurrence delighted the large crowd and definitely enhanced their enjoyment of the event.

TOP MARKS FOR LYNX...

ETHERLYNX 2000 MEETS NEW EUROPEAN CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS



Recent certification tests prove that EtherLynx 2000 cameras meet the newly harmonized standards of the European Common Market. As of January 1, 1996, a marker indicating Conformité Européenne, otherwise called a CE Mark, was required of all manufacturers in order to ship products into Europe. The European Market set standards of conformity by announcing new approach directives that give detailed explanations of a manufacturer's corresponding requirements in order to affix the CE Mark. Two directives are applicable to the EtherLynx 2000 cameras, the electromagnetic compatibility directive, and the low voltage directive. The electromagnetic compatibility directive requires products to be tested for the emission of, and immunity to, radiation; and the low voltage directive requires all products being shipped to Europe to be safeguarded against hazards such as fire, shock, etc. Our CE Mark will be on the back of the camera to indicate that we meet the European standards.

FINISHLYNX 32 UPGRADES

Free FinishLynx T-shirt with all upgrades in August and September.

Upgrade your SCSI FinishLynx system running under DOS to the latest FinishLynx 32 software which runs with Windows 95 or Windows NT. All you have to do is send us your Image Timer. We install some new circuitry and provide the new FinishLynx software. This upgrade option means that now all PC-based FinishLynx customers can have access to the power and versatility of the latest version of the FinishLynx software - FinishLynx 32. This means they can use all the features available to EtherLynx 2000 users - simultaneous single-computer capture and evaluation, multiple open events, etc.. And all our Macintosh customers should know that their Image Timers are completely cross platform. They run equally well on PC machines with the correct software. The cost of the upgrade is \$500 and this price includes the installation of all the necessary hardware in your existing Image Timer and a registered copy of the FinishLynx 32 software. As a special incentive to get our customers to avoid the indoor season rush, we are offering a free t-shirt on all

upgrade orders paid for in August and September. Call Kate Farrington at the office for details, or email her <kate@finishlynx.com>.

LEARNING TO COPE WITH SUCCESS

The demand for talented FinishLynx operators continues to grow.

Since the introduction of the EtherLynx 2000 system the growth in the number of new users has been phenomenal. In some markets, like horse-racing, there are well-established service-providers who help us ensure that new customers receive the support and training they need to help them become comfortable with their new timing systems. However, in the scholastic and collegiate track and field markets our network of trainers and event-support consultants is often fully booked months in advance. Experience has taught us that the biggest hurdle new users face is usually one of confidence in their own ability to make the transition to Fully Automatic Timing. And it is in this area that the mere presence of an operator who has timed hundreds of races can make the greatest difference. If you think that you may have the expertise to become part of our team, please give Giles Norton a call at the office, or send him email: <nortong@finishlynx.com>.

NEXUS ASKS



Do You Know a Multi-talented FinishLynx Operator?

We recently heard from Roger Smith of H.S Sports in the United Kingdom about what we believe to be another world first in event management...



Ewart Hulse is from the North Wales village of Bodelwyddan, all 200+ lbs of him. In May 1996 at the North Wales Championships at Colwyn Bay (a busy meet), Ewart performed the astonishing feat of not only competing in - and winning - the Shot, the Hammer and the Discus, but at the same time he captured and read every race on FinishLynx.

Because we are so impressed with Ewart's achievement, we are naming him "FinishLynx Operator of the Month" and we will send him a token of our esteem. Of course, Hulse's feat may not be the first time this has been done. If you know of a similar - or more impressive - timing crew/athletic performance double, please let us know.

DOUG PADILLA FUND UPDATE

Bidding frenzy closes out the auction to aid injured US record holder.

The closing hours of the auction of a top of the line EtherLynx 2000 system featured a flurry of bids and counter-bids. By the time the auction closed, the fund to help pay Doug's medical bills was richer by \$10,216. This amount - the largest single donation the fund has received to date - came from Millikin University of Decatur, Illinois. Millikin University heard about our auction from the Internet, and their bid of \$10,216 was the highest received by the close. When he heard that he had the winning bid,

Don Luy, the track coach at Millikin said, "We are proud to be associated with the recovery fund, and delighted to have obtained a FinishLynx system for our new track facility." Blaine Anderson, one of the trustees of the Recovery Fund who was in Boston to run the Marathon and to take receipt of the check, told us, "Doug's medical bills are fast approaching \$250,000 and this donation is a wonderful boost to the fund." Padilla himself added, "When running is part of your life, the running community becomes your extended family." Check our website for updates on Padilla's condition and remember that donations can still be made: Doug Padilla Recovery Fund, c/o Harley Jacobs, First Security Bank, 77 North State Street, Orem UT 84057.

PRODUCT NEWS...

Another Lynx-compatible scoreboard, and we also have lots of c-mount zoom lenses and a 220v Post Script printer looking for homes to go to.

Alert readers may have noticed that the article about Disney on page one of this issue mentioned the "Raceclocks" manufactured by ElectroNumerics. This 6 digit clock can come with 6" and 9" digits, can be double-sided and - we understand - will soon be available in an 8 digit model. As a result of a confusion with an overseas customer some time ago, we have on our shelves a brand-spanking-new 220 volt version of a Texas Instruments MicroLaser 600 Post Script printer in its original packing. The first \$600 secures a heck of a deal. We have several manual zoom lenses (12.5 - 75mm, f1.2) returned by customers when they upgraded to remote lenses. They are all refurbished, in A1 shape, and can be yours for only \$200 each.

FEEDBACK

Snail Mail, email, telephone, or fax us with your comments, tips , or stories.

Sean Laughlin of City College of San Francisco sent us email about the California High School State Meet: "State Meet went superb! [It] was televised (FOX), and our tent was located at the finish line - so I put the Lynx banner right in front - Lynx got excellent coverage!! (They were very happy with the quick results). National record was set in the girls 4x1 Relay....Thanks for your help and a great product.

Dennis Weber, Asst. Track Coach, Fort Hays State University also sent us email: Just wanted to thank you for your great support as I fumble my way through learning the system and upgrading at the same time. Your response in getting the upgrade back to was so fast, I'm sure it would be a blur on the FinishLynx.

Mary Ann McCluskey responded to some troubleshooting by Kevin McGill:I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for everything you did to help the University of Illinois prepare for the 1997 Big Ten Outdoor Track and Field Championship....It turns out that our problems were, in fact, due to a low-grade cable. Fortunately we were able to re-install the appropriate Belden grade cable in time for the championship. [W]e couldn't be more pleased with how things turned out.

Mark Kostek, Track and Field Coach, University of Nebraska sent his system back to us because it had been two years since they had it serviced and they didn't anticipate using it for a while (how nice not to have to turn around a service call in the 12 hours before a customer's BIG meet...) He also had these things to say: We at Nebraska

are very pleased with the performance of your exceptional timing system and would welcome the opportunity to talk to any prospective clients about the quality of your system, the ease of operation and your technical support... (blush)

At the recent FinishLynx Timing Seminar in Long Beach, California, Lynx Director of Communication, Giles Norton noticed that the seminar host, Mo Haneef, had two bottles of shoe polish in his Lynx bag. Was this because Mo was determined to be the sharpest looking Lynx operator on the West Coast? No. It turned out that Mo uses the easy-on applicators of black and white shoe polish for touching up worn finish lines. Thanks for the tip, Mo.

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