

Justyna Ball from 2

American runner sponsored by a friend of ours. This young man trained in New Mexico and tried to qualify for the Olympics. His coach was on the Olympic committee and was fascinated by ... Irena Szewińska, a legendary Polish racer, Olympian gold medalist, 10x record setter, who was also on the committee at the time.

He did not make it to the Olympics, but the food at the party was free and we had a good time...

That year Jacek won his bib number in the lottery. The NYC marathon only allows runners with numbers unlike Boston where a number is not required, where you can jump in anytime. The NYC race starts in Staten Island where Jacek and others were taken from Manhattan by buses. To kill time, Francis and I, visited polar bears at the Central Park zoo. We made it to the Guggenheim Museum to check out some big name fashion designers' dresses on display, when we got a call from Jacek who had already passed the Verrazano Narrows Bridge and was coming down Second Ave. We saw him there first, and since the course is in a loop shape, we walked back to Central Park to see him again, this time near the finish line... We did it two years in the row, as Jacek won his number twice.

If you are not as lucky as he was to get a number you need to qualify, but it's tough... Jacek figured out that to win the lottery, he had a better chance if he signed up as a Polish runner rather than an American less competition as there is a special pool for the foreigners, much smaller, but there are less runners. So he did, and it worked both times. Then it got complicated, because the organizers sent his registration and his chip (computer chip that you attach to your shoe for tracking) to his ...grandma's because that was the address that he used when he applied. The marathon is in five days and Babcia calls - she's got the chip!

Can't get the number without registration, can't run without the chip, the number pick up is at the Bay Expo, day before the marathon, so we needed it by then. Can't send it (might not make it on time) or fax it.

We came up with yet another plan (we are getting better at this!). We'll ask Jacek's cousin to go to the Okecie Airport and give the registration and chip to someone who is traveling to JFK airport. We'll drive (3 1/2 hours each way on a weekday!) to get it, then two days later drive back for the race. The cousin found a person, an old lady, willing to take the envelope but she wasn't flying to JFK but to... Newark, New Jersey. "She is wearing a grey coat!" the cousin shouted into the phone.

So we drove to New Jersey... Although we left ahead of time, of course we got stuck in traffic, arrived as the plane landed. The passengers poured out at the gate, several old ladies wearing grey coats popped up! With my poster board prepared, I started to write down Jacek's name when a lady approached us. She was holding a large yellow envelope, and I believe, we gave her Ferraro Roche chocolates for it and assured her that "No, it was nothing illegal." Only then did we realize how nervous she was for the entire time!

The sacrifice Polish grandmas endure, even if the grandchildren aren't theirs...

The crowd at the finish line at Boston's Boylston St was unbearable. That was surely a mistake, to get from the train station to the point where they marked the finish, usually take less than 10 minutes. This time it took me an hour! Janusz (President of Polish Marathon Runners in Chicago) waited and waited, and I tried to get closer, but could only zig-zag along as the streets were closed with tents, buses, security guards, and volunteers... I had no use for them as they did not cooperate, did

not recognize me, me, the veteran marathon watcher. As I finally approached the place...and I looked at the runners coming down, I was surprised at the calmness of the place compared to the 21st mile where everybody screams at the top of their lungs to give that extra support for the last five miles. Sitting and lying down, with the children in tow, it was a picnic atmosphere.

Here, there was no camping out... "Congratulations, you made it!" "Are you gonna be ok?" There was some excitement on the part of onlookers whose runners still appeared alright, and a question mark on the faces of those whose loved ones showed up with glassy eyes and would just continue running as if they needed to be switched off... Volunteers picked up those whose legs appeared wobbly and directed them to the medical tent. Wheelchairs were lined up... Some danced the victory dance in front of us, some threw up...

My Polish flag was used as a landmark to point the runners to their meeting place as I noticed a girl next to me talking on her phone in several languages mentioning the Polish flag in each of them. She was expecting someone, and that someone was a French young man who even posed for the picture with our flag as he claimed to be partly Polish.

Time passed, and at some point, Janusz got impatient and called Jacek to ask about his whereabouts, Jacek responded "I'm on the 21 mile!" "So I'll see you in half an hour!" shouted back Janusz and ... met my angry look. You're talking to the guy who is already exhausted, maybe even half dead, ... don't rush him! Of course, Janusz had 115 marathons under his belt so what do I know? I'm just the wife...

Wearing a banana costume may not make running any easier, but it does help your parents spot you in the crowd. As some wear costumes, like Groucho Marx, Blues Brothers, a beer barrel, giraffes or ballerinas, others display messages on their body, and some run with a flag. Others wear t-shirts advertising some medical project or school or police department.

Francis' school (Tufts Univ.) had some 200 sign-ups (students and professors). When I asked one of them if they have seen anybody in banana attire... "Oh yes, he is fine, right behind me!" said "Vanessa"... Francis ran accompanied by two friends, his support team, who jumped in five miles before the finish line. A 4:07 was great, but he could do better if he were not chatting all the way! He stopped to talk to his elementary school teacher and high school teachers and schoolmates and strangers and what else, he posed for pictures!...Forty minutes later, Jacek, Tom and Tom's daughter Ellen all came together. They did great, and no, they could not make it better. It was enough for all of fight after the race, Ellen said that she had enough, several weeks later, surprise, surprise, she ... signed up for the NYC marathon to better her time! She's hooked...

Who knows, maybe after NYC, she may try Chicago, then Dublin or Warsaw.

It's such a popular event that gathers people from around the world, with or without much training, very little investment but a load of stamina.

How big is the event? It actually lasts several days, with the expo and big pasta party included. It's covered throughout the world. Tokyo sends a crew of thirty. Several European countries cover it as well.

The train ride home was quite a relief for Jacek, who was exhausted, but in one piece. Not like my ride to the Back Bay where excited passengers prepared by drawing posters to cheer their loved ones and friends. As I was sitting by the window, I was able to actually see the runners, as the marathon route goes along the train track for several miles at the beginning. Did not see anybody wearing

103 year old Sybirak from 2

"People were dying like flies before my eyes - from hunger, cold and fatigue," Szekal told The Associated Press, as he sat in the living room of his brick home. He said he made his last confession to a Catholic priest who was digging beside him in "the trench that was meant to be our common grave."

But Szekal was saved when Germany invaded the Soviet Union in 1941. He was recruited to fight with an army formed with Stalin's permission and commanded by Polish Gen. Władysław Anders, which consisted mostly of Poles released from Soviet prisons and internment camps.

Anders led his troops through the Middle East, across Northern Africa and into Italy, where they gained renown for their role in the Battle of Monte Cassino in 1944. They fought as the Second Polish Corps of the British Eighth Army.

Szekal said the British burned Anders' troops louse-infested clothing, gave them new uniforms and decent rations. "We felt like human beings again," he said.

But the Italian campaign thrust them into the horrors of war. Szekal said he scaled cliffs mountaineer-style, fearing the grenades at his belt would explode. He recalled accepting a cup of hot cocoa from a young field-kitchen worker just before a shell hit, then turning back and seeing nothing left but her severed leg. His own coat was punctured by shrapnel, he said, but he was unhurt.

After the war, many soldiers returning to the Eastern bloc were imprisoned. Szekal gained British citizenship, settled in Luton, north of London, and took a job as a factory worker.

The Iron Curtain descended over Europe and Szekal did not see his wife, Ewelina, until 1976, when he traveled to the Soviet Union and met her in secret. "I dreamed of returning to her, but I was afraid the Communists would arrest her," he said.

The Soviet Union fell apart in 1991, and Szekal moved in 1999 to Ivanyets, where he lived with Ewelina until her death in 2002. Both had grown up nearby.

Anders never returned to Poland, which stripped him of his citizenship after he refused to recognize the communist government, and died in England in 1970. His citizenship was posthumously restored in 1989 as communism collapsed.

In contrast with Poland, there has been little official reckoning with communist wrongdoing in Russia and even less in Belarus. Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko speaks warmly of the Soviet era and calls the national security agency the KGB.

Lukashenko's authoritarian government has granted Szekal residency, but no accolades.

"The trial of Nazism took place at Nuremberg, and I am ready to be a witness in the trial of communism, which I hope to live to see," Szekal said. □

banana suit, but I saw the same people over and over as the train stopped at different stations and they were catching up... We, the passengers all cheered when the runners came close in our view -- some of them very close. How close? I mean like a full view. Some actually paused to ...relieve themselves! I guess those who could not wait until the cemetery! Right outside the window, little below the street level, as we moved slowly ...

Too much Polish water already? I have to tell all the runners that I know, to ... hold it until they pass Newton where the passengers lose sight of them.

The best reward is always a pitcher of cold beer at Cheers, and that free train ride courtesy of Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. I know, I know... The runners think it's worth it, but as I said, they are crazy people. □

Polish shipyards from 1

- Sapiens R&D Vice-President – Sagi Schliesser, was a commander of a Computer Training School associated with the Israeli Defense Forces,
- Sapiens Vice-President and Product Manager – Martin Greenberg, served for over eight years in the Israeli Defense Forces "Mamram" computer center. "Mamram" is a specialized unit generating information for all military units in Israel. It developed an intranet system of communication for army and intelligence units.

Officially, Sapiens International and its subsidiary United International Trust are computer science and technology companies that specialize in applying new solutions for business. Neither one has any experience in ship building.

The internet page of Sapiens International Corporation NV shows that this company is a member of Formula System holding, which in turn was purchased in November of 2006 by Emblaze Group.

Per the Niezależna.pl portal, Nahum Admoni became a member of the Board and the consultant-director of the Emblaze Group on September 11, 2008. He is a former employee and former head (1982-1989) of the Mossad, an Israeli Intelligence Agency. He left Mossad after it became public that he supervised Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard who stole U.S. military secrets (Pollard was sentenced to life in prison). Admoni is very influential and a trusted friend of former Israeli Prime Minister – Ehud Olmert.

The Board of the Emblaze Group has other members connected with Israeli military and administration, as for example, Naftali Shani (President) – former employee of the office of Israeli Prime Minister, Zvi Shur (director-consultant) – former employee of the Israeli Army and former heard of the Financial Department of the Israeli Defense Ministry, or Ilan Flato (director-consultant) – former economic advisor for Israel's Prime Minister and former high official of the Israeli Treasury Department. □

*From the editor (of Niezależna.pl portal)
Grzegorz Wierchołowski*

We are asking our readers to copy this article and forward it to other internet pages and portals – the best way is to copy and forward the following link –

<http://www.niezalezna.pl/article/show/id/20607>.

We already received information that the mainstream media will want to keep quiet about this and write about the United International Trust as the company "connected with Qatar". This is, of course, a lie and a purpose deception of the readers –after reviewing names of the Sapiens management, it's clear who they are (among others: Eli Reifman, Hadas Gazit Kaiser, Guy Bernstein, Naamit Salomon, Yacov Elinav, Uzi Netanel i Eyal Ben-Chelouche).

Let's remember that for unexplained bankruptcy of the polish shipyard industry and then for selling it for a few hundred million zlotych to a company which is run by the agents, military and employees of a foreign nation, regardless if it is Israel, Russia or Australia, a few "holding power" people in Poland should be brought to the High Court. □

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