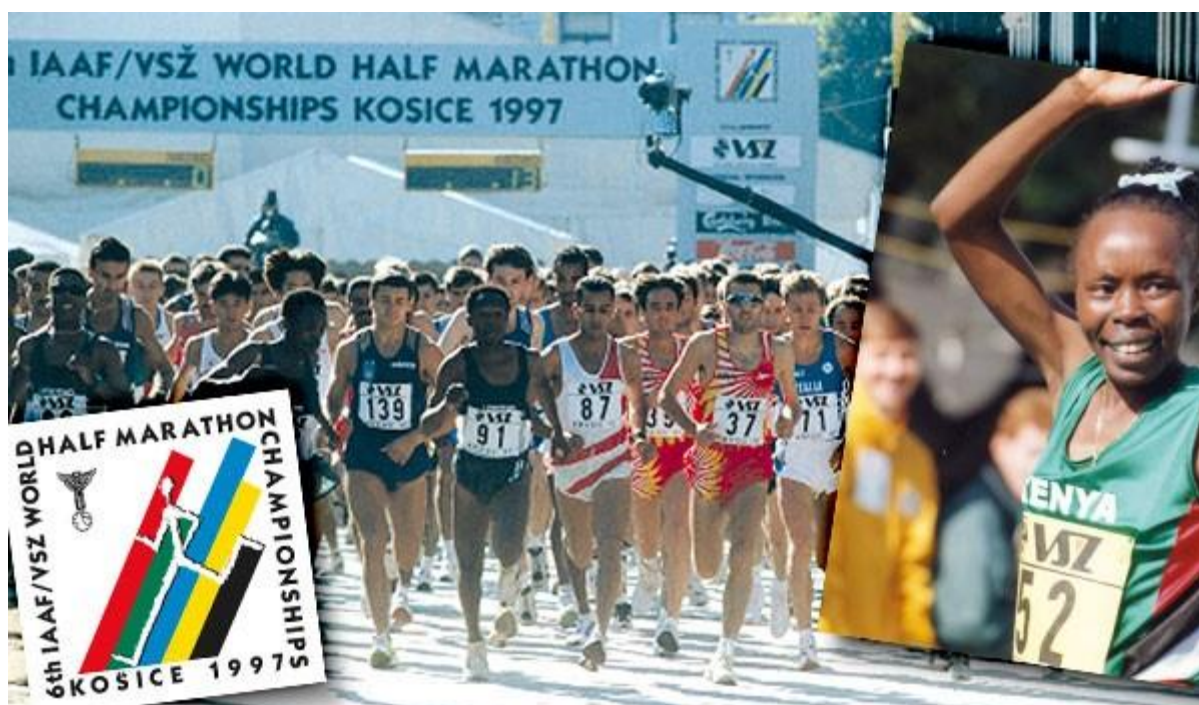# CHAPTER EIGHT

STORIES OF NINE DECADES
WHAT HAPPENED 20 YEARS AGO

Two in One.

*In Košice Sunday was more or less always a day dedicated to marathon except the very first races that took place on October 28, the memorial day of Czechoslovak republic establishment. But then year 1997 came and all happened on Saturday October, 4. And when we say all we mean two exceptional events held on one day. Before midday the sunny city belonged to athletes competing at **6th IAAF World Half Marathon Championships**. This extraordinary race was organized in Košice thanks to its long marathon tradition and strong organizing background. Thanks to LIVE Eurosport broadcasting scenes of Košice championships hit the world. Among them also outstanding men race in which 3 athletes ran half under 1 hour and victory of unbeatable **Tegla Loroupe**.*

*After the award ceremony of new world champions organizers went ahead and got ready for the regular start of **74th Košice Peace Marathon**. Any concerns about spectators having already enough after watching world championships and not coming to support marathoners came out baseless. The streets got even more crowded than before midday and people applauded to unexpected winner from Morocco **My Tahar Echchadli**. After that he came to Košice two more times and never left without medal. He finished third in 1998 and 1999. **Wioletta Urygova** from Poland dominated in women race. Afterwards she won Poznań Marathon and six years later made her PB in far Nagoya.*

RESULTS
Kosice Peace Marathon, October 4, 1997
Men

1.	My Tahar Echchadli	MAR	2:16:22
2.	Andrzej Krzyscin	POL	2:16:28
3.	Bruno Santachiara	ITA	2:17:09

Women

1.	Wioletta Uryga	POL	2:38:56
2.	Viktoryia Silomina	RUS	2:41:21
3.	Dana Hajná	CZE	2:45:50