



## CHAPTER SIX

### STORIES OF NINE DECADES WHAT HAPPENED 40 YEARS AGO



#### **Asian dominance.**

*If we look back in time how many Asian elite runners participated in Košice marathon, it is easy to count them. Despite their small number, they earned six marathon titles here. Two went to Japan and four to North Korea.*

*So 1977 story is about Koreans, but not only. Waldemar Cierpinski, the winner of the Montreal Olympics, was the only serious rival to the Koreans in 1977. They were coming to Košice regularly in that time. But Cierpinski crossed finish line 41 seconds behind winner Chun-Son Go and had to accept 3rd place. For the sake of completeness, we have to add that Cierpinski did not win any of his five starts in Košice in spite of his very successful running career. It should be also remembered that Chun-Son Go was defeated by Waldemar Cierpinski at both Olympics Games in Montreal and Moscow too.*

*Chun-Son Go defended his victory in Košice year later and set a new course record held previously by former world leader, American Buddy Edelen who won in Košice in 1963. Chun-Son Go continued in his career and improve PB for 2:10:52 in 1980 when he won in French town of Esson.*

*Go back to Košice Marathon 1977 once again. In total 17 runners reached the finish line under 2 hours and 20 minutes this year. The best home athlete was Miroslav Krsek who took the 12th place and was representing Sparta Prague athletic club.*

## **RESULTS**

### **Kosice Peace Marathon, October 2, 1977**

#### **Men**

1.	Chun-Son Go	PRK	2:15:19,4
2.	Chang-Sob Choi	PRK	2:15:49,4
3.	Waldemar Cierpinski	GDR	2:16:00,3