



## CHAPTER SEVEN

### STORIES OF NINE DECADES WHAT HAPPENED 30 YEARS AGO



#### **Major changes in 1989**

*In 1989 the marathon was held just a few weeks before the so-called Velvet Revolution, which brought radical changes in the society of what was then Czechoslovakia..*

*That year also brought principle changes to the Košice Peace Marathon itself. After 63 long years, it was no longer run to the turnaround point in Seňa and back, but instead, for the first time, it was run over a city loop, which was later modified and improved several times.*

*For the ninth time Košice in 1989 had a female winner, and this time it was home grown Alena Peterková in a new course record of 2:31:28, a time that lasted 20 years. Peterková later achieved several admirable results, including a 4th place at Boston in a personal best of 2:25:16.*

*Another home grown runner, Karel David, wearing the singlet of Dukla Banská Bystrica, also finished first that year. In an even-paced run he beat his Soviet competition by several seconds,*

*and thus a native son won the race for the 12th time (9 different runners) in the then 65 years of the race. David ranked in his time among the best marathoners in Europe. He started at the Olympics in Seoul and Barcelona and won marathons in Vienna, Bonn and Palermo. In 1991 in Tokyo he ran personal best of 2:11:12.*

*In all, 970 men and 31 women reached the finish that year, which was again located at Lokomotive stadium on October 1, 1989.*

*In the final balance, the 1989 Košice Peace Marathon's new city loop met with enthusiasm and a positive response, but voices defending the original course to Seňa and back were still heard. The arguments endured with greater or lesser intensity for several years, but the idea of leaving the always more attractive city loop has not found sufficient support.*

## **RESULTS**

### **Kosice Peace Marathon, October 1, 1989**

#### **Men**

1.	Karel David	TCH (CZE)	2:18:39
2.	Igor Levtejev	URS (RUS)	2:18:52
3.	Aleksandr Vyčužanin	URS (RUS)	2:18:57

#### **Women**

1.	Alena Peterková	TCH (CZE)	2:31:28
2.	Yong-Ok Cho	PRK	2:40:23
3.	Jong-Rang Lee	PRK	2:40:23