

19,000-mile hike ends

United Press International
PRUDHOE BAY, Alaska — British adventurer George Meegan completed a 19,021-mile walk from the tip of South America to the Arctic Ocean Sunday, hiking the last nine miles of his nearly six-year long journey.

The walk that began Jan. 26, 1977 from Ushuaia, the southernmost non-scientific settlement on earth, ended at 1:30 p.m. at the Beaufort Sea in the Arctic Circle on property leased by the oil firm ARCO Alaska Inc.

Meegan, 30, of Rainham, England, was permitted to complete the last nine miles of the journey by ARCO, which had refused his initial request two weeks ago to

cross its property but later relented.

He was accompanied by his Japanese wife, Yoshiko, and they were met by their two children, Ayumi, 5, whose name is Japanese for "walk," and Geoffrey Susumu, 3, whose Japanese name means "keep going."

"This walk is a celebration of freedom," Meegan said. "It was achieved without funds and without sponsorship. It was made possible by the 10,000 acts of kindness shown me by the people of this world."

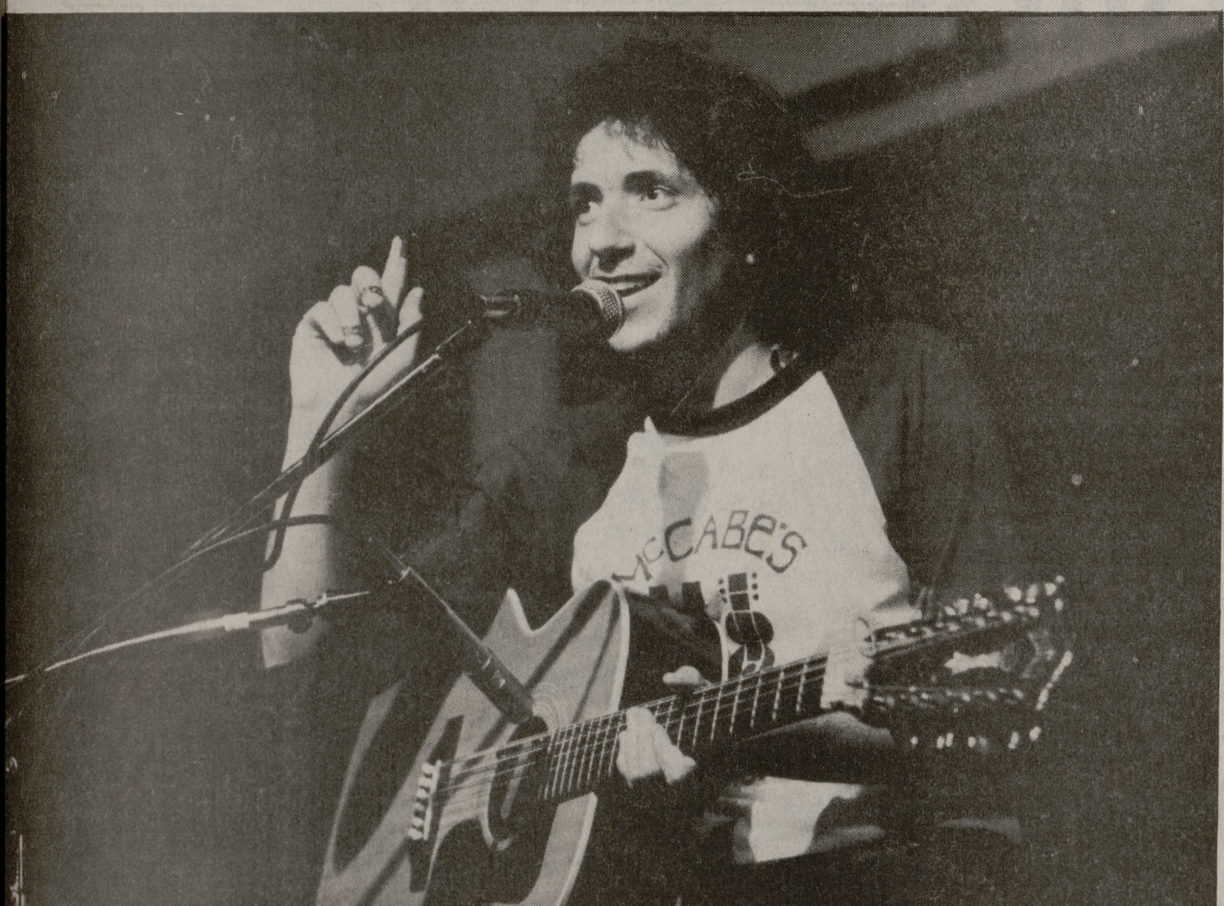
Meegan said he made the journey because nobody had ever done it before. His press agent

said the walk represents the longest continuous foot journey in history and the first transverse of the Western Hemisphere on foot.

He reportedly beat the record of David Chang who walked 18,500 miles from Singapore to London in 1958.

When he arrived at the shore of the Beaufort Sea — some 2,426 days after leaving South America and after making an estimated 31 million strides — he cried and said: "I feel like I've lost my best friend. It's over."

Meegan and his family planned to return to England as soon as possible. They eventually hope to live in Japan.



Michael Gulezian

photo by Dean Saito

Michael Gulezian appeared Friday night in Rumours as part of the fall MSC Basement concert series. He played twelve and six string guitars as part of his show.

Humor hall of fame planned, said to be 'a matter of time'

United Press International
CLEAR LAKE, Iowa (UPI) — Ed Thornberg has some very serious notions about humor.

He wants to a hall of fame for those who make their living with puns and one-liners.

Thornberg feels it is only a matter of time until a Humor Hall of Fame is established and he wants to make sure it is in the Midwest. He feels a tribute to humor should be as far away from East and West Coast glitter as possible.

"I kind of wanted to keep this thing clean," he said. "We want this to be a legitimate tribute to class comedians."

Thornberg heads the National Hall of Humor, a group that has published a couple of joke books and sponsors a central Iowa phone-in joke line. But their long term goal is an ultramodern museum dedicated to humor.

Envisioned is a \$10 million one-

story structure of glass, steel and brick, with a central rotunda featuring wax images of the great ones like Mark Twain, Will Rogers, Laurel and Hardy.

"We'd like to induct Bob Hope and George Burns," Thornberg said. "They don't have to be dead to be honored in the Humor Hall of Fame."

The difficulty, said Thornberg, will be selecting the truly great. "We want only the truly great comics, who have proven their talent over time," he said. "Some of these fellows get a little bit rank."

Thornberg's proposed museum "will appeal to a more intellectual sort," Thornberg said. He referred to it as "the Smithsonian of Humor."

Artifacts hopefully to be donated by famous comics will be displayed. Movies and recordings of their classic routines will be played.

The highlight will be a constantly expanding computerized library of humor, categorized by subject and comedian.

"People could call in and get fishing jokes, gardening jokes, or anything for a speech or get-together," Thornberg said.

Thornberg is looking for a Midwestern site near a major interstate highway that would attract cross-country tourists. He says the cities he has approached have been very receptive.

"I'm sure we would be the brunt of a couple jokes if the hall was located here," LeClaire city administrator Ed Choate said.

"But we have a fine site that could

give the hall the exposure it would deserve. I would consider it an asset to the community."

The city of East Moline, Ill., also has been approached about a location near the Quad-City Downs racetrack.

"Some people coming out of the track might need something to laugh at," Thornberg said.

Thornberg is a retired Minneapolis businessman who, at age 71, says he needs a project like this to keep him busy.

"I'm not a kid anymore," he said. "No one is going to hire me so I have to get into projects like this."

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Chefs try food record

United Press International
PEEKSKILL, N.Y. — One hundred chefs are preparing the ingredients for the world's largest brownie, and 3,000 people are waiting to eat it.

If the mammoth desert — a heavy, 45-foot-long pastry — breaks the Guinness Book of World Records when it is baked Sunday, it will be Peekskill's sixth consecutive food record.

The Hudson River community has already captured five previous world records — a 10,000-egg omelet, a 1,058-foot-long sandwich, an 80-foot-long by 40-foot-wide cake, a 12-foot diameter popcorn ball and a 40-foot-long by 4-foot-wide serving of lasagna.

Pat Belth, who is overseeing the 100 bakers, said the brownie will contain 500 pounds of dry ingredients, 350 eggs, 350 half-cups of oil and 350 half-cups of water. The brownie was expected to take 90 minutes to bake, Ms. Belth said.

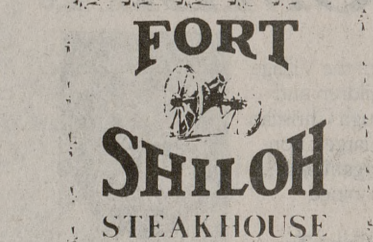
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