

Corbitt Is Promoting Running

CORBITT, by John Chodes; Tafnews Press, Los Altos, Calif.; 168 pages; \$3.95.

He moans. He groans. He's a bundle of apparent pain. He rushes along as if every highway in America was coated with sizzling coals.

Graceful, he's not — but super-determined he is.

He's Ted Corbitt, the fifty-ish marathoner who has done more to promote the wave of distance running enthusiasm that's currently sweeping the U.S. than any living, breathing athlete.

The New Yorker's story is well-chronicled by author Chodes, a companion of Corbitt on many of his most testing treks. Revealed are the inner moments of a most remarkable man at his numerous ordeals throughout North America and Europe.

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Ordeals they truly are — such things as 24 hours of circling a soft English 440-yard track in

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search of a record abandoned by generations of runners as "too tough" to attack. And there are others.

Corbitt's running has spanned 20 years and he's completed, at last count, 178 marathons, a mark that puts him in an international class unto himself.

The man is far from being an athletic automaton — wind him up and see him run, all day if necessary, and that sort of thing. He's a thinking man's athlete who has had considerable time, much of it afoot, to gather some cogent thoughts.

They're squeezed between the 160 pages of this book and shed light on an interesting avenue of athletics.

—ELLIOTT DENMAN