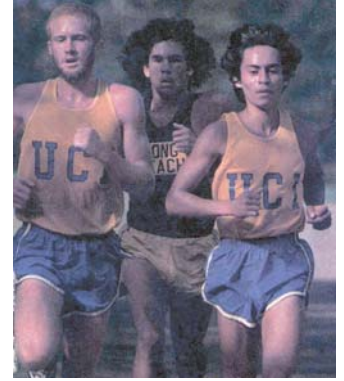


**HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA
INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION
SOUTHERN SECTION
(CIFSS)**



49th historical "tidbit."
Dr. John S. Dahlem

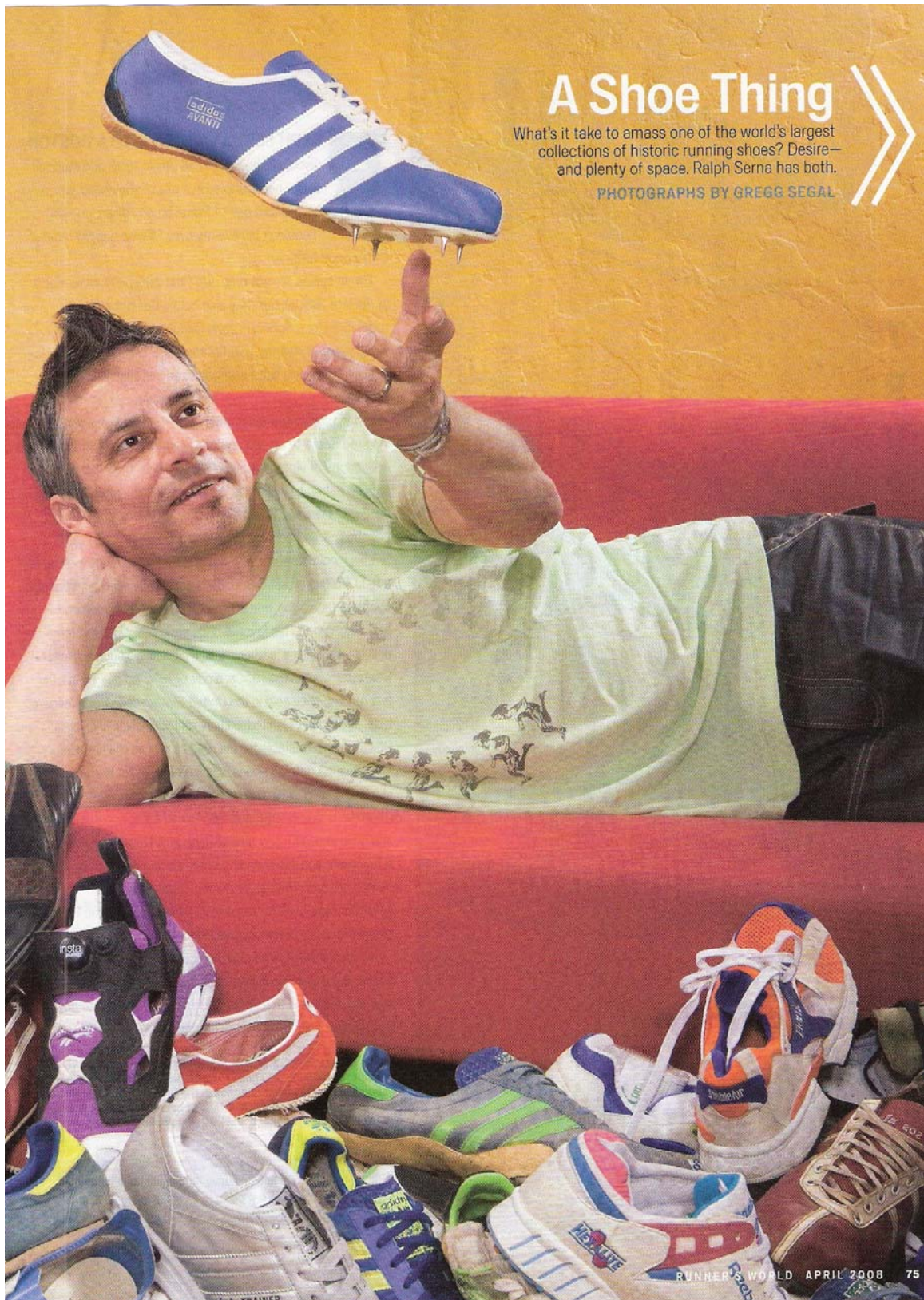
**RALPH SERNA
LOARA HIGH SCHOOL
FAMOUS TRACK ATHLETE, COLLECTOR OF TRACK
MEMORIBILA AND TRACK SHOES**

The "Golden Age" of California high school track is often considered to be the 1970's, when elite distance runners had to run on dirt and clay surfaces without the superior shoes and sophisticated training regimes of today. Ralph Serna of Loara High School in Anaheim during the 1975 California State High School Track Championships in San Diego, ran a 8:45.9 two mile finishing second to the great Eric Hulst from Laguna Beach. Serna's time to date still is one of the best high school marks ever for a two mile race. Ralph continued to run in college and won two individual NCAA cross country titles for the University of California, Irvine. Today Ralph is a successful shoe designer who in the past worked for companies like Reebok and Mizuno.



Ralph, who had the opportunity to talk with Steve Prefontaine and Frank Shorter, is an avid collector of running shoes. Ralph also collects other track ephemera to include medals, books, running magazines and track programs. Ralph has been very kind to the CIFSS and has shared copies of some his programs to include the 1914 CIFSS Track Interscholastic Championship program held on the Y.M.C.A. field in Los Angeles.





A Shoe Thing

What's it take to amass one of the world's largest collections of historic running shoes? Desire—and plenty of space. Ralph Serna has both.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY GREGG SEGAL

