Alquerian Sporting Legends

The chances of Alqueria ever staging the Olympic Games are somewhat remote but that does not rule out the existence of sporting greats in the Pueblo. We only have to cast our minds back to 1954 when Bannister broke the four minute mile. Alqueria's very own Pedro Piernaslargas managed it in twelve minutes and fifty seconds. He argued that taking into account the time he stopped for a fag and a beer meant he actually ran the race in three minutes ten seconds. The International Athletes Committee weren't impressed however and told him to stop being silly.

Manuela has long been regarded as the most sporting girl in Alqueria. Her fame spreading to the four corners of the Iberian peninsular. Unfortunately the International Olympic Committee have not had the imagination to sanction her particular area of expertise.

Ernesto Muyinestable who amazes audiences with his hard stamping and emotional flamenco attended the Olympic Triple Jump trials. The organisers pointed out, rather harshly Ernesto thought that the sport should be left to those who have a full complement of limbs. Ernesto having lost a leg in the Great Halibut Conflagration of ninety-seven. Alonso Plucketo on the other hand would excel in the Three Legged Race if such a race were an international event. He could participate individually since sprouting an extra leg after taking an afternoon swim in the polluted Río Verde.

Fringe events are also well represented in Alqueria. Long distance spitting, a traditional and popular pastime has many devotees in the Village. On a peaceful Summer's evening plastic raincoated men can be seen spitting with a precision and range that would gladden the heart of any artillery officer worth his salt. These events take place after dinner, spitting being a natural reaction to the consumption of Alquerian cuisine.

Loco Paco was not to be left out of the Alquerian sporting hall of fame. He is certain that Benjy, his pet Saharan Dung Beetle could beat all comers. As soon as he can find a jockey small enough for Bengy he intends to put him through his paces. Anton Limpwrist, a window dresser originally from Lubrín trained for the Handball Team. He lost interest however when he discovered it was a team event. Another possible would be 'Speedy Gonzalos' Alvarado. He was given his epithet by Manuela for reasons it would be better to draw a veil over for the time being.

Alqueria may not produce the greatest sporting legends but there are none more lethargic and indifferent than those from the Pueblo.