Wilkinson's Big Step Forward

The major race walking fixture last weekend was the IAAF International event in Lugano, Switzerland.

Representing England Athletics Callum Wilkinson finished fifth in the under 18's setting a new personal best of 46.36 and was the second European to finish in a race dominated by Chinese walkers.

This was Wilkinson's first race following a demanding winter schedule and met three targets important in mapping out the rest of his season: He was the first British junior, he sliced two minutes off his previous best and perhaps the most important of all, passed the scrutiny of IAAF international judges.

Callum celebrated his17th birthday with his English team colleagues two days before the race.



Callum in full flight.

Result

- 1) He Janygong (China) 43.51
- 2) Zabbeni Pietro (Italy) 44.55
- 3) Zhao Jianguo (China) 45.41
- 4) Gong Fanghong (Chna) 46.01
- 5) Callum Wilkinson (England) 46.36

EA's other junior Cameron Corbishley finished eighth in 48.24